

# **SOCIAL SERVICES APPEALS PANEL MINUTES**

## **20 APRIL 2010**

**Chairman:** \* Ms C Ellis

**Councillors:** \* Mrs Lurline Champagne \* Mrs Rekha Shah

\* Denotes Member present

### **52. Appointment of Chairman**

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

### **53. Terms of Reference**

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

### **54. Minutes**

(See Note at conclusion of these minutes).

### **55. Guidance Notes**

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

## 56. 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 (contains information relating to any individual).

## RESOLVED ITEMS

### 57. 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 why a secure placement was still considered necessary. The Panel also considered a report from 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's Services, the Independent Investigator, Secure Unit, and the wishes of the child who was present at the meeting.

The Panel Members were advised of the transition programme for a residential placement and were concerned about the safety of the child in the event that they were not in secure accommodation until the placement.

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 an extension to the Secure Order be sought for a period of three months from 20 April 2010.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 11.40 am, closed at 1.50 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 Social Services Appeals Panel comprises two Council Panel Members and an Independent Chairman. 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].