

STIRLING COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **PARENTAL APPEALS PANEL** held in the **BRUCE ROOM, VIEWFORTH, STIRLING** on **WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2016** at **10.00 am**

Present:

Ms Alison Macleod (in the Chair)
Councillor John HENDRY Mrs Anita SMILEY

In Attendance:

Ruth O'Hare, Lead Solicitor, Localities & Infrastructure
Michelle MacDonald, Committee Officer, Localities & Infrastructure (Clerk)

The Panel resolved, that under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

PA36 APPEAL AGAINST EXCLUSION

The Panel had been asked to consider an appeal against exclusion from McLaren High School.

Members of the Panel had before them

- (a) Statement of Rights/Procedures;
- (b) Parental Submission;
- (c) Education Authority Submission.

The Chair introduced the Members of the Panel and the parties to each other. The procedures to be followed were also outlined.

Ruth McColgan, Solicitor, Sandra Logan, Team Leader Broad General Education, Schools & Learning and Jonathan Anderson, Depute Head Teacher, McLaren High School, represented the Education Authority.

The Appellant was present.

Ruth McColgan presented the case for the Education Authority and explained the background leading up to the exclusion.

The Panel and the Appellants were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Education Authority.

The Appellant presented her case, outlining the reasons why she was appealing against the decision to exclude her son from McLaren High School.

The Panel and the Education Authority were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Appellant.

Both parties were then given the opportunity to sum up their cases.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and asked the Appellant and the Education Authority representatives to withdraw from the meeting at this point in the proceedings to allow the Panel to consider the evidence put before it.

She confirmed that both parties would be notified of the Panel's decision in writing within 14 days.

Decision

The Panel having carefully considered the evidence submitted unanimously agreed to annul the decision of the Education Authority to exclude the child from McLaren High School as they felt that the exclusion procedures were not correctly followed.

The Panel further recommended that the Education Authority should:-

1. carry out a comprehensive review of the exclusion procedures at McLaren High School; and
2. continue with the communication links which are now in place to support the child.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 12.30pm

