

# STIRLING COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the **MEETING** of the **PARENTAL APPEALS PANEL** held in the **WALLACE ROOM, VIEWFORTH, STIRLING** on **WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL 2017** at **10.00 am**

**Present:**

Ms Alison Macleod (in the Chair)  
Councillor John HENDRY                      Mrs Amanda NAMEY

**In Attendance:**

Lauren Grant, Trainee Solicitor, Localities & Infrastructure  
Jean Houston, Governance 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.**

**PA37    APPEAL AGAINST EXCLUSION**

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

Members of the Panel had before them

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

The Chair introduced the Members of the Panel and outlined the procedures to be followed at the Hearing.

Sally Kennedy, Acting Service Manager for Broad General Education, Schools & Learning, Elaine Bannatyne, Head Teacher, Balfron High School and Amanda Short, Depute Head Teacher, Balfron High School, represented the Education Authority.

The Appellant was not present.

Sally Kennedy presented the case for the Education Authority and explained the background leading up to the exclusion.

The Panel asked questions of the Education Authority.

The Education Authority requested that a Solicitor attend the Hearing to give advice and clarify matters raised by the Panel. Lauren Grant, Trainee Solicitor, attended.

The Education Authority was given the opportunity to ask questions and conclude their case.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and asked the Education Authority representatives and Solicitor 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, agreed unanimously to annul the decision of the Education Authority to exclude the pupil from Balforn High School as they felt that the grounds for exclusion were not met.

The Panel further recommended that the Education Authority should carry out a comprehensive review of exclusion procedures and the processes followed in making submissions to Parental Appeals Panels.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 11.05