



The Appellants presented their case, outlining the reasons why they were appealing against the placing request refusal.

The Panel and the Education Authority asked questions of the Appellants.

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

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and asked all parties to withdraw from the meeting at this point in the proceedings to allow the Panel to consider the evidence put before it. Both parties would initially be notified of the Panel's decision later that day via telephone call from the Clerk, with formal notification of the decision being confirmed in writing within 14 days.

### **Decision**

The Panel unanimously agreed to uphold the appeal.

After considering all the evidence, the Panel agreed that the grounds for refusal relied upon by the Education Authority had been established and that it had been appropriate to refuse the placing request for the reasons stated.

The Panel then considered whether in all the circumstances it was appropriate for it to confirm the Education Authority's refusal of the placing request. The Panel felt that the issues raised during the meeting outweighed the grounds for refusing the request put forward by the Education Authority. In particular, weight was given to the need for continuity in the child's schooling, their psychological diagnosis and ongoing requirements for support and the fact that the family were resident in the catchment area for a considerable period of time until recently and remained active in the local community.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 4.10pm