

Lay Members Appointments Committee

Agenda

Date:	Thursday, 27th May, 2010
Time:	10.00 am
Venue:	Committee Suite 2/3 - Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, CW11 1HZ

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests in any item on the agenda

3. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos.11 and 35 a period of 10 minutes is allocated for members of the public to address the meeting on any matter relevant to the work of the meeting. Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned where there are a number of speakers. Members of the public are not required to give notice to use this facility. However, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours' notice is encouraged.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide three clear working days' notice, in writing, in order for an informed answer to be given.

4. **Minutes of Previous meeting** (Pages 1 - 2)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2009.

5. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

The report relating to the remaining item on the agenda has been withheld from public circulation and deposit pursuant to Section 100(B)(2) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the matter may be determined with the press and public excluded.

The Committee may decide that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item pursuant to Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

PART 2 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

6. **Appointment of Lay Members to Independent Appeal Panel for School Admissions** (Pages 3 - 22)

To consider two expressions of interest in training to become independent appeal panel members for school admissions and exclusions.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Lay Members Appointments Committee**
held on Monday, 11th May, 2009 at Committee Suite 2, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach. CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor R Parker (Chairman)
Councillor C Beard (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors A Barratt, D Cannon, S Conquest and L Smetham

Officers:

Brian Reed, Democratic Services Manager
Paul Mountford, Democratic Services
Melissa Andrews, Solicitor

Apologies

Councillor D Thompson

1 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**RESOLVED**

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item pursuant to Section 100(A) 4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the item involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

2 APPOINTMENT OF LAY MEMBERS TO SCHOOL ADMISSION APPEAL PANELS AND EXCLUSION APPEAL PANELS

The Committee considered a report on the appointment of lay members to sit on both School Admission Appeals Panels and Exclusion Appeal Panels.

Where an admission authority refused a child a place at a particular school the parent had the right to appeal the decision to an independent appeal panel under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. Where a pupil had been permanently excluded following a disciplinary offence by a head teacher, parents had a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

Under Section 84 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, admission authorities were required to ensure that every school admission appeal hearing consisted of at least one lay member. Under Section 67 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, local education authorities were required to make

arrangements for enabling the relevant person to appeal against any decision of the governing body under section 66 not to reinstate a pupil who had been permanently excluded from a school maintained by the authority. The Chairman of any exclusions appeals panel must be a lay member.

A proposed list of panel members was set out in an Appendix to the report. The majority of the panel members listed were longstanding panel members who had previously been appointed by Cheshire County Council. All were trained, had experience and had given good service for a number of years.

RESOLVED

That

- (1) the appointment of the lay independent appeal panel members listed in the Appendix to the report be approved; and
- (2) Members of the Committee be invited to attend a future training session for lay members.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 2.20 pm

Councillor R Parker (Chairman)

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of the Local Government Act 1972.

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