

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL
EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of the Education Transport Appeals Committee held in Committee Room No 1 Council Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness on Tuesday, 11 November 2008 at 3.10 p.m.

PRESENT

Mr W Fernie (in the Chair)
Mr L Fraser

Mr A M Millar (for Appeals 07 and 08/08)
Mrs E McAllister

Local Members also present

Mrs I Campbell (Appeals 07 and 08/08)	Mrs M Paterson (Appeal 09/08)
Dr A Sinclair (Appeals 07 and 08/08)	Mrs I McCallum (Appeal 10/08)
Mrs J Urquhart (Appeals 07 and 08/08)	Mr A Rhind (Appeal 14/08)
Mrs A MacLean (Appeal 09/08)	Mr A Torrance (Appeal 14/08)

Officials in attendance:

Mr R MacKenzie, Head of Support Services, Education, Culture and Sport
Mr H MacLeod, Area Business Support Officer, Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross
Mr I Jackson, Area Business Support Officer, Ross, Skye and Lochaber
Miss L Burgess, Clerical Assistant, Education, Culture and Sport
Mr J Allison, Principal Administrator, Chief Executive's Office
Miss J MacLennan, Committee Administrator, Chief Executive's Office

BUSINESS

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Mr B Gormley and Local Members Mr C Fraser (Appeal 10/08), Mr J McGillivray (Appeals 11 and 12/08) and Mr R Coghill (Appeal 15/08).

2. EDUCATION TRANSPORT APPEALS

The Appeals Committee **RESOLVED** that under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 the public be excluded for discussion of the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

(a) Transport Appeal No 07/08

There was circulated Report No ETR07/08 by the Area Business Support Officer, Ross, Skye and Lochaber setting out the detail on an appeal for home to school transport in respect of two primary school pupils living at

Reraig, near Kyle of Lochalsh and travelling to Auchtertyre Primary School. The report gave details of the circumstances involved and the views of Local Members were heard.

After discussion of the circumstances, including measures which might assist in enhancing the route to school, the Committee **AGREED** that the appeal be dismissed.

(b) Transport Appeal No 08/08

There was circulated Report No ETR8/08 by the Area Business Support Officer, Ross, Skye and Lochaber setting out the detail on an appeal for the provision of home to school transport in respect of a primary school pupil living at Milltown, Applecross and travelling to Applecross Primary School.

As the School Route Assessment had still to be submitted, the Committee **DEFERRED** determination of the Appeal.

(c) Transport Appeal No 09/08

There was circulated Report No ETR9/08 by the Area Business Support Officer, Ross, Skye and Lochaber on an appeal for the provision of home to school transport in respect of a primary school pupil living at Balvaird Road, Muir of Ord and travelling to Tarradale Primary School. The report gave details of the circumstance involved and the views of Local Members in support of the Appeal were heard.

Following discussion, the Committee **AGREED** that the appeal be dismissed.

(d) Transport Appeal No 10/08

There was circulated Report No ETR10/08 by the Area Business Support Officer, Ross, Skye and Lochaber on an appeal for the provision of home to school transport in respect of two primary school pupils living at Rosehaugh Estate, Avoch and travelling to Avoch Primary School. The report gave details of the circumstance involved, including reference to the prior provision of concessionary transport, and the view of the Local Member present was heard.

During discussion, Mrs McAllister suggested transport be provided during the winter months. However, Mr W Fernie, seconded by Mr L Fraser, moved that the Appeal be refused. Accordingly, the Committee **AGREED** that the appeal be dismissed.

(e) Transport Appeal No 11/08

There was circulated Report No ETR11/08 by the Area Business Support Officer, Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross on an appeal for the provision of transport from home to the pick-up point in respect of a secondary school pupil living at Gartymore, Helmsdale and attending Golspie High School.

The Committee **AGREED** that the appeal be dismissed.

(f) Transport Appeals No 12/08 and 13/08

There was circulated Report No ETR12/08 by the Area Business Support Officer, Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross on an appeal for the provision of home to school transport in respect of a primary school pupil living at Kincardine Hill, Ardgay and travelling to Bonar Bridge Primary School. Report No ETR13/08 was also circulated relating to the provision of transport of a secondary school pupil, attending Dornoch Academy, from the same address to the pick-up point. The reports gave details of the circumstance involved and the view of the Local Member supporting the Appeals was reported.

In discussion, the circumstances leading to the appeals were explored and Mrs McAllister suggested that provision could be made for a limited period of time. However, this would set a precedent particularly as the pupils were attending the schools concerned under placing requests, and Mr W Fernie, seconded by Mr L Fraser, moved that both Appeals be refused.

Accordingly, the Committee **AGREED** that the appeals be dismissed.

(g) Transport Appeal No 14/08

There was circulated Report No ETR14/08 by the Area Business Support Officer, Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross on an appeal for the provision of transport from home to the pick up point in respect of a primary school pupil living at Fearn and travelling to Hill of Fearn Primary School. The report gave details of the circumstance involved and the views of Local Members in support of the application were heard and which referred to a previous arrangement which had been in place along this route.

Following discussion where it was confirmed that the current contracted route differed from the previous contracted route, the Committee **AGREED** that the appeal be dismissed.

(h) Transport Appeal No 15/08

There was circulated Report No ETR15/08 by the Area Business Support Officer, Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross on an appeal for the provision of home to school transport in respect of a secondary school pupil living at Weydale, Thurso and travelling to Thurso High School. The report gave details of the circumstances involved and the view of a Local Member was heard.

The Committee **AGREED** that the appeal be dismissed.

The meeting closed at 4.35 p.m.