

Minutes of the meeting of the **Appeals Panel** held on **17 May 2001** when there were present:

Cllr Mrs J M Giles (Chairman)
Cllr J R F Mason
Cllr R A Pearson

Cllr P D Stebbing
Cllr :P F A Webster

APOLOGIES

Councillors T G Cutmore, K A Gibbs, Mrs S J Lemon and Mrs M A Weir

OFFICERS ATTENDING

L Lapite	Principal Solicitor
L Armond	Benefits Manager
A Wyatt	Committee Administrator

195 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2001 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Resolved

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it discloses exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

196 REVIEW OF APPLICATION FOR HOUSING BENEFIT

The Panel considered the exempt report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) relating to an appeal by Mr S against the decision by the Housing Benefit Department that he was not eligible to claim rent allowance.

Considering the issues raised in the report, a subsequent letter from the appellant dated 28 April 2001 including the response to that letter from the Benefits Manager, Members interviewed at length the Benefits Manager and also the Authority's Visiting Officer (Fraud).

Noting all the information before them, the Panel considered that the Appeal should be dismissed, as officers had correctly applied the law in determining that the appellant was not entitled to claim for rent allowance.

Resolved

That the appeal be dismissed.

The meeting opened at 2.00pm and closed at 3.00pm

Chairman

Dated