

Minutes of the meeting of the **Appeals Panel** held on Wednesday **4 October 2000** commencing at 2.30pm when there were present:

Cllr P D Stebbing	Chairman
Cllr Mrs J M Giles	
Cllr Mrs S J Lemon	
Cllr R A Pearson	
Cllr Mrs M A Weir	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor J R F Mason

OFFICERS PRESENT

G P Woolhouse	-	Head of Housing, Health & Community Care
L Lapite	-	Solicitor
A Wyatt	-	Committee Administrator

295A MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2000 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.

295B HOMELESSNESS APPEAL

The Panel considered an appeal by a Mr C and Ms K with regard to a decision by this Authority to not accept its homelessness duty on the grounds that both applicants had made themselves intentionally homeless.

On hearing the case made by the Head of Housing, Health and Community Care and the joint case made by Mr C and Ms K, Members considered that the Officer's decision should be upheld, however, in the case of Ms K there had been mitigating circumstances which the

Panel should take into account, although this would not set a precedent for future cases.

Resolved

- (1) That in the case of Mr C, the Officer's decision to find him intentionally homeless be upheld.
- (2) That in the case of Ms K, the Officer's decision be upheld, however that as there are mitigating circumstances, coupled with the Panel's concerns for the welfare and education of the appellants children, the appellant be advised that the Panel is inclined to accept the homelessness duty towards the family.

The meeting closed at 4.30pm.

Chairman.....

Date