

**Minutes of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee**

**12<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 at 6.00 pm**  
**at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

**Present:** Councillor Dhallu (Chair);  
Councillors Haque (Vice Chair);  
Allen, P Davies, E M Giles and Meehan.

**Apology:** Councillor S Crumpton.

6/16

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 were confirmed as a correct record.

**Matter delegated to the Committee**

7/16

**Appeal against the decision of the Adaptations Panel**

The Committee considered an appeal by Mr D and Ms C, against the decision of the Disabled Facilities Grant Adaptations Panel. The appeal was on the grounds that Mr D and Ms C had been assessed as needing a ground floor double bedroom, a ground floor level access shower room and an external step lift at floor level due to their disabilities.

An offer to rehouse Mr D and Ms C to a property in the vicinity, which had already been suitably adapted to meet their needs, had been made. However, the offer had been declined on the basis that they would prefer to remain in their own home, and had lived in the property for a considerable length of time.

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In reaching its decision the Committee considered the report of the Director – Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing and the appellants' written and verbal submissions.

The Committee further considered the cost implication of the adaptation, and that it would exceed the Disabled Facilities Grant limit of £30,000 and that it was neither reasonable nor practicable to make the adaptation.

**Resolved** that the decision of the Disabled Facilities Grant Adaptations Panel, to not award Mr D and Ms C a Disabled Facilities Grant under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996, to provide a ground floor double bedroom, ground floor level access shower room and an external step lift at floor level, be upheld.

(Meeting ended at 7:03pm)

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