

Wiltshire Council

Council

2 July 2018

Urgent Executive Decisions Taken by Cabinet

Purpose of report

1. To advise Council of a decision taken by Cabinet under the 'Special Urgency' provision.

Background

2. It is a requirement of the Constitution that the Leader prepares a report to Council on the Cabinet decisions taken in the circumstances set out in Part 5, paragraph 31 (special urgency). The report should include the number of decisions so taken and a summary of the matters in respect of which those decisions were taken (paragraph 34).

Main considerations for the council

Decision Taken – Southview Park, Trowbridge – Council House Building

3. At the meeting, the Leader confirmed that the item should be taken as urgent for the reason: that contractors were currently onsite and were close to completing phase one. Furthermore, that by allowing them to ramp down and leave site would create a serious time and cost risk to the development of phase two. By taking the decision at the meeting of the 12 June, the Council would mitigate against the risk of that increase cost and potential delay.
4. In accordance with Part 5 of the Constitution, the following actions were undertaken:
 - The Leader agreed that the matter be considered as urgent business at the Cabinet meeting on 12 June as the matter could not wait until the next scheduled meeting of Cabinet on 2 July.
 - The Chairman of Council was informed on 11 June and agreed that the taking of the decision could not reasonably be deferred.
 - A notice of additional key decision not previously included in the published Cabinet Forward Work Plan was published on 11 June.
 - The report was made available as soon as it was finalised and published to the Council's website and a link sent to all Councillors on 11 June.

5. The decision had previously been advertised on the forward workplan as a decision scheduled to be taken in July.

Proposal

That the Council notes the report

**Councillor Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE
Leader of the Council**

Appendix One – Extract from Cabinet meeting

Background papers

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report:

None

Extract from Minute of the Cabinet meeting on the 12 June 2018

Urgent Item (Minute 247 refers)

Councillor Richard Clewer presented the item which sought approval to build 22 new council homes across two parcels of land at Southview Park, Trowbridge with capital funding and land set aside for the delivery of affordable housing.

Resolved

- a) To use the land in Appendix 1 for affordable housing**
- b) To carry out any appropriations necessary pursuant to s122 LGA 1972 to ensure that the sites in a) are held by the Council for housing purposes**
- c) To use a total budget of £4m with delegated authority to substitute and change funding streams to optimise financing. Funding streams may be increased or decreased as required providing that they stay within available allocation and do not affect the total budget position.**
- d) To enter into contracts for consultants, construction and other elements of the project to enable the delivery of 22 new homes within the total scheme costs identified in Appendix 1 in accordance with the Corporate Procurement & Commissioning Board approach.**
- e) To enter into funding agreements with Homes England as required to secure any grant funding allocated.**

Reason for Decision

The Council has capital funding set aside within the Council's capital budget for investment in affordable housing. The Council also has land at Southview Park, Trowbridge that was transferred to the Council for the delivery of new affordable homes. This creates an opportunity to use the available funding to deliver 22 new affordable council owned and managed homes in Trowbridge to meet identified housing needs.