

GENERAL EXCEPTION NOTICE TO THE CHAIR OF THE CORPORATE PERFORMANCE PANEL OF A KEY DECISION TO BE MADE BY THE CABINET NOT PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED ON THE PUBLISHED FORWARD PLAN

Under Regulation 9 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, local authorities are required to publish a Forward Plan of key decisions to be made by the Executive at least 28 clear days before the date of the meeting at which the decision is to be taken.

In the event that the publication of the intention to make a key decision at least 28 days before the meeting is impracticable, the local authority must inform the Chair of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee (Corporate Performance Panel) of “*the matter about which the decision is to be made*”, in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

The following notice is hereby provided:

Matter about which the decision is to be made

Cabinet may make the following key decision at its meeting on 8 February 2023:

To accept the Local Authority Housing Fund grant of £1,719,141 and deliver the scheme for provision of housing based on the prospectus for the Local Authority Housing Fund issued by DLUHC.

For reference, the proposed recommendations are set out below:

Recommendations

1. The Council will enter a Memorandum of Understanding with DLUHC based on the attached prospectus for the Local Authority Housing Fund (see appendix 2). Authority is delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing People and Communities to agree the final terms of the Memorandum of Understanding with DLUHC.
2. The Council will accept the total sum of £1,719,141 offered to the Council by DLUHC under the Local Authority Housing Fund to deliver the programme understanding the match funding requirements as set out in the report and attached prospectus.
3. Cabinet agrees that, subject to agreement from West Norfolk Housing Company, the properties will be acquired by West Norfolk Housing Company, funded by the grant, debt financing and other available funding
4. The Council requests that West Norfolk Housing Company works with the Council to deliver the properties through the fund.
5. Cabinet agrees to the principle of allocating properties acquired through the fund to eligible Ukrainian and Afghan households. A further report setting out a policy approach will follow separately.
6. Authority is delegated to the Assistant Director Programme & Project Delivery to
 - a. alter the proposed NORA 4 tenure mix, originally agreed by Cabinet on the 4th February 2020 (CAB 106), where necessary, to facilitate the disposal of properties previously identified as Private Rent and/or Open Market Sale, to West Norfolk Housing Company (WNHC) as affordable housing
 - b. negotiate the terms of any disposal with West Norfolk Housing Company.

Reason for Decision

The recommendations will ensure that the opportunity presented by the Local Authority Housing Fund to deliver affordable housing in the borough will be fully realised and will help to relieve pressures on the council's homelessness services.

Reasons why compliance with Regulation 9 was impracticable

The Council's constitution defines a key decision as follows:

an executive decision which is likely –

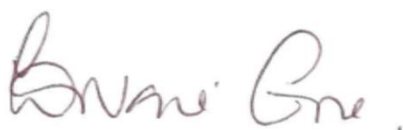
(a) to result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or

(b) to be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in the area comprising two or more wards and electoral divisions in the Council's areas where significant under a) above is £500,000 or more and significant under b) above is one third of the resident population in a ward.

The Local Authority Housing Fund prospectus was issued by DLUHC in December 2022. Since then officers have been reviewing the prospectus and obtaining further information from DLUHC via webinars and briefings on how DLUHC expects this scheme to be delivered. This in turn has enabled officers to consider the implications for this Council and how this scheme could be delivered.

The relevant acceptance documents for the scheme have to be entered by 15 March 2023, which mean that in the cycle of meetings, this needs to be considered by Cabinet at its 8 February 2023, accounting for the time taken to deal with any valid call-in. This means that the full 28 days' notice of a key decision has not been provided if this decision is made by Cabinet on 8 February 2023.

This notice is to be published 5 clear days before the identified key decision may be taken by Cabinet on 8 February 2023.



Name Lorraine Gore, Chief Executive

Date: 31 January 2023