

Executive decision taken by Leader/Cabinet portfolio holder



Pro-forma for completion in respect of executive decisions taken by Leader of the Council or by an individual Cabinet portfolio holder.

Decision taken by:

Councillor Zoe Nicholson, Leader of the Council, following consultation with other Cabinet members.

Date of decision:

2 April 2020

Subject of report:

Housing Development at 20 Fort Road, Newhaven

Exempt matter (if any as given under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972):

Not applicable.

Key decision?:

Yes

Open summary of decision made:

- (1) To accept the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee laid out in paragraph. 2.2 of the report.
- (2) To agree to appropriate the property from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account

Reason(s) for decision:

The Leader resolved to support the development of the scheme and would like Cabinet and Scrutiny members to gain a better understanding of the build costs of affordable housing to inform decision making on future housing schemes.

The advice of Homes First is that the scheme at 20 Fort Road would better meet housing needs as Council housing, and flexible temporary accommodation will be allocated in Council stock to meet the specific needs of households.

There are other sites within Fort Road with development potential and the Council will continue to seek opportunities to further increase the supply of housing for local residents.

Alternative options considered:

None

Was an executive councillor(s) consulted before decision was taken? If so, what was the result of this consultation?

Members of the Cabinet who were available (Councillors MacCleary, Bird, Collier, Meyer, O'Brien and O'Keeffe) met via video conference on 26 March 2020 to discuss the proposals set out in the Officer's report, and were supportive of the recommendations in the report.

In response to a question from a Cabinet member, the Director of Regeneration and Planning confirmed that the building had been craned onto site and that construction work was continuing for the time being.

Does the proposal involve any unplanned expenditure? If so, please confirm that you have consulted with the Chief Finance officer and include the date of consultation

No

Signed:

Cllr Zoe Nicholson

Leader of the Council