

RECORD OF DECISION: EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

Decision No: 22/C/2024 Decision taken by: Cabinet Date: 09 September 2024
Topic: Safeguarding Policy It was agreed that the revised Safeguarding Policy be adopted and published. REASON/S FOR THE DECISION: The Council has a statutory duty (Care Act 2014) to ensure that robust safeguarding measures are in place to protect all children and vulnerable adults from harm. The revised Policy takes account of new legislation and guidelines, good practice, recommendations made by the Kent and Medway Adult Safeguarding Board and incorporates learning from our local experience of handling safeguarding cases. The Policy and its associated procedures provides both officers and elected Members with a solid framework for understanding their safeguarding obligations and ensures that the Council fully meets all of its safeguarding responsibilities to standards that will withstand scrutiny.
Alternative options considered and rejected: None.
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any) None.
DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any) None.

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.

Decision No: 23/C/2024
Decision taken by: Cabinet
Date: 09 September 2024

Topic: Climate Change Update

It was agreed that Cabinet Members acknowledge the report and agree to commence the development of a new Climate Strategy for the Council.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION:

Cabinet recognises the Council's significant changes and progress since the declaration of a climate emergency in June 2019, as well as the increasing challenges in meeting the council's target for decarbonising its own operations and the limited impact this will have on borough-wide emissions. It is therefore critical to refocus on our approach, as Council operating emissions account for only 0.5% of those emitted in the borough, with the majority of the primary emissions coming from the Transport, Domestic, Industry, and Commercial sectors.

As a result, the council is best positioned to make a difference in reducing the Borough's carbon emissions through its community leadership and placemaking role, working in partnership and engaging with its residents, businesses and local community groups to raise climate awareness and promote opportunities to reduce emissions while also emphasising the co-benefits of doing so.

Furthermore, the council will continue to reduce its own operational emissions where it is practical and financially viable to achieve.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

None.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any)

None.

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any)

None.

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Decision No: 24/C/2024
Decision taken by: Cabinet
Date: 09 September 2024

Topic: Land Purchase - Lower Range Road

It was agreed that:

1. The Director (Housing) in consultation with the S.151 Officer and Lead Member be given delegated authority to purchase the site.
2. The Director (Housing) in consultation with the S151 Officer and Lead Member be given delegated authority to use of relevant frameworks to procure and award contracts (including direct award if appropriate) in accordance with Gravesham's Procurement Strategy.
3. Director (Housing) in consultation with the S151 Officer and Lead Member be given delegated authority to negotiate and agree on amendments both contractually and budgetary if required as long as the returned tender price and any subsequent amendments, relative to anticipated rental income, continues to demonstrate the scheme can repay the associated borrowing within a period of not more than 30 years.

REASON/S FOR THE DECISION:

With nearly 1,000 households on the Council's Housing Register and a recently adopted Housing Development Strategy committing to delivering 1,000 affordable homes within the Borough by 2028/29, the purchase of this site helps to address demand whilst also helping to deliver the number of much needed affordable housing committed to in the strategy. This acquisition also helps to protect the scheme approved for this site for affordable housing.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The alternative option was to not put an offer forward for this site and allow the landowner to go to the open market. However, this was rejected as there was risk the site would not be developed in a timely manner and would not deliver affordable housing.

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CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any)

N/A

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any)

N/A

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