

SUBJECT: Urgent decision of Cabinet taken on 6th March 2024

MEETING: Council

DATE: 18th April 2024

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: Monmouth

EXEMPT REPORT

Appendix 2 to this report is exempt by virtue of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part 4, paragraphs 12 and 21 in that it is information relating to a particular individual and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To update members on a decision taken by Cabinet on 6th March 2024, where call-in was disappplied due to urgency.
- 1.2. To explain why the decision was urgent in accordance with paragraph 31.15.3

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That Council notes the decision of Cabinet on 6th March 2024 and the reasons for urgency as set out in the recommendations of the Cabinet report attached at Appendix 1.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1. On 6th March 2024 Cabinet resolved to acquire and refurbish a property for the purpose of developing an in-house a residential children's home. The background and detail to this decision is contained within the Cabinet report at Appendix 1.

- 3.2. Paragraph 31.15.1 of the Council's constitution states:

'The call-in procedure...shall not apply where the decision being taken by the Cabinet is urgent. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would, for example, seriously prejudice the Council's or other public interests...'

- 3.3. The decision to purchase the property was urgent because:

The Local Authority had applied to the Housing with Care Fund (HCF) for £1,175,500 spread over two years – up to £875,500 (2023/24 for the acquisition) and up to £300,000 (2024/25 for the refurbishment). The HCF would provide for the cost of the acquisition (up to an independent

market valuation), together with land transaction fees and associated costs only if we are able to complete the purchase before year end.

3.4. The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair of People Scrutiny Committee, considered the reasons for urgency and agreed that the decision was urgent.

3.5. The decision and the reasons for urgency are being reported to Council in accordance with paragraph 31.15.3 of the Constitution.

4. CONSULTEES:

- Paul Matthews – Chief Executive
- James Williams – Chief Officer of Law & Governance
- John Crook – Chair of People Scrutiny

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

5.1. Appendix 1 – Cabinet Report dated 6th March 2024

6. AUTHOR:

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