

CABINET MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, 31 January 2024

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO TAKE AN URGENT KEY DECISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS) (MEETINGS AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012 AND THE FOLLOWING RULE(S) IN THE FOLKESTONE AND HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSTITUTION:-

Part 6.4, 'Cabinet Access to Information Procedure Rules' – Rule 12 'General Exception'

Biggins Wood – Council Purchase of Affordable Housing

Following the decision to dispose of the Biggins Wood site and Cabinet's approval of the HRA Business Plan the opportunity has arisen to purchase the affordable housing from the residential developer. This report sets out the opportunity which fits within the parameters of the HRA Business Plan and will deliver 24 new affordable homes to the Council.

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT:

1. The decision on the matter outlined above cannot practically be deferred until the publicity requirements for key decisions can be met because:

The opportunity was only presented to the Council late last week and the developer has another provider lined up to take the affordable homes. Officers have had to move quickly to assess the scheme's viability and suitability for the HRA. Officers will be submitting an offer to secure the homes subject to Cabinet approval and Council approval of the HRA budget.

2. The decision will therefore be taken after five clear working days have elapsed from the date of this notice and its publication; that is, at a meeting of the Cabinet on the date shown above.
3. The Head of Paid Service has notified the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in writing, of the matter on which the decision is to be made.



Dr S Priest

Chief Executive
Folkestone and Hythe District Council
Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue
Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY

Date: 21 December 2023

A Key Decision is any decision:

- (a) Relating to the approval of or variation to the Council's Budget or Policy Framework which is reserved in the Council's Constitution for determination by full Council on a recommendation from Cabinet; or
- (b) Which involves the incurring of expenditure, or the making of savings, by the Council, which are anticipated to be in excess of £300,000 with the exception of items previously included in the relevant approved budget ; or
- (c) Where the Council is entering into a contractual obligation with a value in excess of £500,000; or
- (d) For the acquisition or disposal of land or property with a value of over £500,000; or
- (e) Which is likely to be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the Council's area.

A decision will not be a key decision if it relates to expenditure, income or savings that:

- a) Has been approved previously by full Council; or
- b) Has been approved previously, following compliance with the key decision procedure; or
- c) Is in accordance with the current treasury management and investment policy of the Council.