



PORTFOLIO: CORPORATE & FINANCE AND HOUSING, HEALTH & SOCIAL EXCLUSION

CABINET – 5 DECEMBER 2001

STILLWATER PARK

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report requests the Cabinet to consider the comments of the Corporate & Finance and Housing, Health & Social Exclusion Review Panels following the call in of the Cabinet decision on Stillwater Park.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Cabinet on 7 November 2001 considered a report setting out the results of possible market interest in the disposal of Stillwater Park and the options available for the future of the site. After discussion the Cabinet agreed:
- (a) That further discussions be held with the Registered Social Landlord who submitted the highest preliminary bid received from a Housing Association with a view to inviting that Registered Social Landlord to submit a firm bid; and
 - (b) That a further report be made back to the Cabinet as soon as possible.
- 2.2 The decision of the Cabinet was subsequently the subject of a call in by one member of the Council.

3. CONSIDERATION FOLLOWING CALL-IN

- 3.1 A joint meeting of the Corporate & Finance and Housing, Health & Social Exclusion Review Panels took place on 21 November 2001 to review the decision of the Cabinet. A copy of the draft minutes of the meeting are attached. In summary, the Review Panels agreed the following:

(a) Housing, Health & Social Exclusion Panel :-

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet be advised of this Panel's view that

- (i) proposed negotiations with the previously identified Registered Social Landlord should cease forthwith and that the sale of the Stillwater Park Mobile Home site to the residents be pursued;

- (ii) in the event of such negotiations proving unsuccessful, negotiations be opened with another democratically-elected body; and
- (iii) suitable covenants be entered into with any prospective purchasers in order to prevent the resale of the site and to safeguard the security of residents.

(b) Corporate & Finance Panel :-

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet be advised of the Panel's view that

- (i) a sale of Stillwater Park be progressed to the higher bidder, subject to suitable safeguards being incorporated to protect the security of tenure of residents; and
- (ii) in the event of such negotiations failing, further negotiations be held with the next highest bidder, with the incorporation of the same safeguards, until a satisfactory conclusion is reached.

3.2 There are therefore opposing views from the Panels on the possible disposal of Stillwater Park.

4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

4.1 There has previously been consultation with the residents of Stillwater Park, local members, the Ringwood Town Council and the Housing, Health & Social Exclusion Review Panel.

5. OPTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED

5.1 These are set out in the Review Panels' recommendations in paragraph 3 above.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None directly arising out of this report.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None directly arising out of this report.

8. CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 None directly arising out of this report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The Cabinet is asked to consider the views of the Review Panels and decide on a way forward.

Further Information:

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Background Papers:

Published documents

(CB051201L.doc)