

CALL-IN REQUEST – SALE OF COUNCIL GARAGES AT BURNETT CLOSE, HYTHE

1. RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 That the Panel consider Councillor Alex Wade’s call-in submission.

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 On 27 April 2023, the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Homelessness Services, Cllr Edward Heron made a decision to sell 4 Council owned garages at Burnett Close, Hythe for the sum of £7,500 to Collingwood Investments Limited.

- 2.2 Following this Portfolio Holder Decision, Cllr Alex Wade gave formal notice to call-in the decision. He stated the following as the reason for the call-in:

“As a local Ward Member I have been aware of the situation for some time and local Residents and Former Tenants will be very disappointed and frustrated with this decision. These garages are vital for safe and secure storage for those without adequate space and protect valued items such as Motorbikes and Cycles.”

- 2.3 In accordance with Council procedures, as no other call in notices have been received, the decision stands and Cllr Alex Wade has the opportunity to express his views about the decision to the Panel. He has been invited to attend the meeting in order to represent his call-in request and for the Panel to discuss the decision.

- 2.4 As the decision is being reviewed by the Panel (although implementation is unaffected), the relevant Cabinet Portfolio Holder has also been invited to attend the Panel to represent the Cabinet.

- 2.5 The Panel may also wish to call upon the appropriate officers to provide further information to the Panel in connection with the decision.

- 2.6 The views of the Panel on this matter will be reported directly to the Leader and the Council.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The full details of what led the Council to put forward a decision of sale can be found in the report to the Portfolio Holder at appendix 1.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The financial implications are set out in the Portfolio Holder decision, attached as Appendix 1. The sale of the garages will generate an additional one-off income payment of £7,500 to Housing Revenue Account. There will be savings to the repair and maintenance of the garages but there will be a loss of income from the 4 garages of £12.09 per garage per week.

5. CRIME AND DISORDER, ENVIRONMENTAL, EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are none arising from this report.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 The Portfolio Holder Councillor Edward Heron made a decision on 27 April. Since the decision was taken, the District Council has had local elections and there has been a change of Portfolio Holder for Housing and Homelessness Services. The new Portfolio Holder with responsibility for this decision, Cllr Steve Davies will be present at the meeting to address the Panel.

6.2 The Panel will hear from Cllr Alex Wade and are able to report their views and considerations to the Leader and the Council.

For further information please contact:

Background Papers:

Richard Knott
Assistant Director – Housing
023 8028 5242
Richard.knott@nfdc.gov.uk