

# Public Document Pack



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24 November 2022

Dear Councillor

## **GENERAL EXCEPTION NOTICE – (GE06 22) TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION BUDGET DRAWDOWN FOR WORKS IN BENCH STREET, DOVER**

Please find attached a General Exception Notice relating to a decision to be taken by Cabinet on 5 December in respect of the regeneration of Bench Street.

This is a Key Decision which has emerged since the original entry covering the Bench Street project was included in the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions (NFKD) and was not specifically referred to in that entry. Whilst this decision was not included in the NFKD, it may still be taken provided 5 clear days have elapsed between publishing this General Exception Notice and informing the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and the decision being taken.

Members of the public who require further information are asked to contact Democratic Services on 01304 872303 or by e-mail at [democraticservices@dover.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@dover.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kate Bailey - Smith". Below the signature is a short horizontal line.

Democratic Services Officer

ENCL

1 **GENERAL EXCEPTION NOTICE - (GE06 22) TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION BUDGET DRAWDOWN FOR WORKS IN BENCH STREET, DOVER** (Pages 2-3)



<b>DEMOCRATIC SUPPORT SECTION ONLY</b>	
Decision No:	<u>GE06</u>
Publication Date:	<u>24/11/22</u>

## General Exception

Pursuant to the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

### Notice of Key Decision

**A: Decision to be taken and by whom**

Town Centre Regeneration Budget Drawdown for Works in Bench Street

Cabinet on 5 December 2022

This is a Key Decision which has not been included within the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions, but which must be taken by such a date that it is impracticable to defer the decision until 28 days after the next Notice is published.

**B: Reasons why this Key Decision was not included in the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions and why it would not be practicable to defer the decision**

The Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions (NFKD) includes an item entitled 'Identification of a procurement route for the Dover Beacon project, the Council's application to the Levelling Up Fund'. The report was due to be presented to Cabinet on 5 December 2022, but it has not proved possible to gather all the information needed to complete a comprehensive report for the Cabinet meeting on 5 December and the report has therefore been deferred until January 2023.

One element of that report/project has emerged since the original NFKD entry was first entered. It was therefore not listed in its own right but now requires urgent consideration.

The Council purchased properties on Bench Street for redevelopment through the Levelling Up Fund Dover Beacon project (as detailed in a report to Cabinet dated 6 June 2022 entitled 'Levelling Up Fund – Round 2' and a Delegated Decision Notice dated 17 November 2022 entitled 'Bench Street Land Assembly – Strategic Acquisition for Dover Growth, Investment and Regeneration Purposes'). Since taking ownership of the properties, officers have commissioned structural surveys and begun undertaking works required to ensure public and site safety, such as repairs to hoardings. The surveys have identified that the immediate erection of structural scaffolding is required. A report will therefore be presented to Cabinet in December seeking agreement for the drawdown of funding to support these urgent works.

**C: List of documents submitted to the decision-maker**

Cabinet report of 5 December 2022.

**D: Part of the Constitution authorising the decision**

Rule 15 (General Exception Procedure) of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (Part

4 – Rules of Procedure).

- Notice must be given in the first instance to the Chairman of the relevant Scrutiny Committee
- The General Exception procedure allows a Key Decision which has been omitted from the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions to be taken, provided 5 clear days has elapsed between informing the Chairman of the relevant Scrutiny Committee and making a copy of this notice available to the public (on the website and displayed in the Council Chamber lobby), and the decision being taken.
- Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of, or extracts from, documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the decision may be requested from the address given below. In addition, the public may submit other documents relevant to the decision to the same address.

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