

Decision Notice

Decision Taken Between Meetings

Decision No:	DPH03
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Subject:	PROVISION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES AND GENERAL NEEDS INTERIM HOUSING VIA LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING FUND – ROUND 2
Date of Decision:	10 July 2023
Notification Date:	12 July 2023
Implementation Date:	13 July 2023
Decision taken by:	Councillor Pam Brivio, Portfolio Holder for Housing, Skills and Education
Authority:	Paragraph 12 (General Responsibilities Delegated to all Members of the Executive) of Section 3C of Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions) of the Constitution
Decision Type:	Executive Key Decision
Call-In to Apply?	No (<i>The Chairman of the Council has agreed to suspend call-in for the reasons set out in paragraph 1.2 below</i>)
Classification:	Unrestricted

Reason for the Decision:	Following the award of grant funding from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities' Local Authority Housing Fund – Round 2, a decision is necessary to progress the acquisition of affordable housing for Afghan refugees and general needs interim housing.
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Decision:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Skills and Education approves a project to acquire, and where necessary refurbish, six properties for affordable rent and temporary accommodation, under the terms of the Local Authority Housing Fund programme.2. That the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Skills and Education authorises the Head of Finance and Investment (in consultation with the Portfolio Holder) to take the necessary decisions and actions to progress the project and purchase the properties including (but not limited to) accepting grant funding from the Local Authority Housing Fund Round 2; entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities; agreeing the purchase price; approving the sale purchase agreements; appointing any necessary professional advisers; and agreeing works to bring the properties up to lettable standards.3. To determine that, in the opinion of the decision-maker, this decision is an urgent one and the Chairman of the Council should therefore be requested to suspend call-in.
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1. Consideration and Alternatives (*if applicable*)

- 1.1 See attached report.
- 1.2 This decision needs to be made immediately and cannot wait until Cabinet next meets in September in order to avoid losing the £840,000 funding which must be accepted and a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities within the next two weeks. Call-in, if exercised, could delay the property acquisition process, and Councillor Gordon Cowan, the Chairman of the Council, has therefore agreed to suspend call-in.
2. **Any Conflicts of Interest Declared?**
 - 2.1 None.
3. **Supporting Information** (*as applicable*)
 - 3.1 See attached report.