

WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL CABINET

17th JANUARY 2023

CABINET MEMBER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR HOUSING, CULTURE AND LEISURE - COUNCILLOR ADAM BROWN

Report Title Decision taken by the Leader of the Council under urgency procedures: Approve budget for the rebuilding of 10 Windflower Place

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Contributors/Checkers/Approvers

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List of Appendices

Appendix A: Record of Decision by the Leader in relation to approve budget for the rebuilding of 10 Windflower Place – Signed by the Leader of the Council

1. Purpose of Report

This report seeks to notify Cabinet of the decision taken by the Leader of the Council to approve budget for the rebuilding of 10 Windflower Place.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The Local Government Act 2000 Section 9E provides that the Leader of the Council can take any executive decision alone or with his Cabinet. In West Northants the vast majority of Executive decisions, not otherwise delegated, are taken collectively by the Leader and Cabinet together but in cases of urgency the Leader of the Council can take decisions where it is necessary.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That Cabinet note the decisions taken by the Leader of the Council set out at Appendix A.

4. Reason for Recommendations

- 4.1 Where decisions that would otherwise be taken by the Leader and Cabinet have been taken by the Leader alone, in the interests of transparency, the decision is reported to the next available meeting of the Cabinet.
- 4.2 The decision taken provided the authority for the Council to approve funding to support the rebuild of 10 Windflower Place, following a fire.
- 4.3 Full reasons for the decision taken are set out in the decision records appended to this report.

5. Report Background

- 5.1 Northamptonshire Partnership Homes (NPH) produced and presented a report to Capital Assets Board (CAB) on the 9 August 2022 regarding 10 Windflower Place, a property that was destroyed by fire in December 2021. The report was seeking additional budget through the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programme of £200k to support the full cost of rebuild of the property.
- 5.2 The Capital Assets Board is not a decision-making body and recommendations for an additional budget from CAB require approval from Cabinet.
- 5.3 Although there was a report that went to Cabinet on the 20 December (Quarter 2 General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Capital Monitoring) which referenced the damage at the property, as the work had already commenced an urgent decision by the Leader of the Council was required to authorise funding to continue to incur expenditure on the scheme.

6. Issues and Choices

- 6.1 The decision taken was necessary to ensure the continued proper running of the Council and its business.

7. Implications (including financial implications)

7.1 Resources and Financial

7.1.1 The HRA Capital Programme is funded through borrowing, internal resources or external funding arrangements. Expenditure relating to this will be monitored by Finance and the Capital and Assets Board.

7.2 Legal

This report is required to ensure that the Council complies with its constitution in making key decisions relating to the Council's capital assets, even when they are under the management of Northampton Partnership Homes. The Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been consulted about this decision.

7.3 Risk

Funding for all capital schemes has been identified, and progress against budgets will be closely monitored to Cabinet on a regular basis.

8. Background Papers

None