



City of Westminster

Committee Agenda

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Title:

Housing, Finance and Regeneration Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date:

Thursday 12th September, 2019

Time:

7.00 pm

Venue:

Rooms 18.01 and 18.03, 18th Floor, City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP

Members:

Councillors:

Melvyn Caplan (Chairman)
Richard Elcho
Elizabeth Hitchcock
Adam Hug

Guthrie McKie
Matt Noble
Mark Shearer
James Spencer



Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussion Part 1 of the Agenda

Admission to the public gallery is by ticket, issued from the ground floor reception. If you have a disability and require any special assistance please contact the Committee Officer (details listed below) in advance of the meeting.



An Induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter. If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Officer, Toby Howes, Senior Committee and Governance Officer.

**Tel: 020 7641 8470; Email: thowes@westminster.gov.uk
Corporate Website: www.westminster.gov.uk**

Note for Members: Members are reminded that Officer contacts are shown at the end of each report and Members are welcome to raise questions in advance of the meeting. With regard to item 2, guidance on declarations of interests is included in the Code of Governance; if Members and Officers have any particular questions they should contact the Head of Committee and Governance Services in advance of the meeting please.

AGENDA

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

(Pages 3 - 8)

To consider any other business which the Chairman considers urgent.

Call-In of: Disposal of 24 homes in Hounslow

The report is attached.

Stuart Love
Chief Executive
11 September 2019



Housing, Finance and Regeneration Policy and Scrutiny Committee Report

Date:	12 September 2019
Classification:	General Release, Appendix B and C not for publication
Title:	Call-in of: Disposal of 24 homes in Hounslow
Report of:	Reuben Segal, Acting Head of Committee and Governance Services
Financial Summary:	The Cabinet Member report in the appendices sets out the financial implications
Report Author and Contact Details:	Toby Howes Senior Committee and Governance Officer Email: thowes@westminster.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 On 5 September 2019, the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Regeneration and the Cabinet Member for Housing Services made the following executive decisions in respect of the Disposal of 24 homes in Hounslow report.
1. That this report be exempt from disclosure by virtue of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part 1, paragraph 3, in that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
 2. That the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Regeneration and the Cabinet Member for Housing Services approved the disposal of 24 units in Hounslow to the organisation and the agreed disposal price as set out in the report.
 3. That the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Regeneration and the Cabinet Member for Housing Services authorised the Director of Housing, in conjunction with the Director of Law, to agree the contract terms and to conclude the contract.

- 1.2 Three Members of the Housing, Finance and Regeneration Policy and Scrutiny Committee have subsequently exercised their right that the decision be “called-in” for scrutiny by the Committee.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee reviews the decision outlined above and, in this instance, agrees one of the following options:
- (a) To endorse the decision made by the Cabinet Members.
 - (b) To refer the matter back to the Cabinet Members for reconsideration.
 - (c) If, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, the matter is contrary to the Budget and Policy framework, refer the matter to Full Council.

3. Background

- 3.1 On 5 September 2019 notice of this decision was published in accordance with the Council’s Constitution.
- 3.2 On 5 September 2019, a valid call-in from Councillors Adam Hug, Guthrie McKie and Matt Noble, was received, triggering the requirement from the Committee to consider the call-in.
- 3.3 The options available to the Committees are:

Option A: Endorse the decision taken by the Cabinet Members.

Option B: Refer the decision back to the Cabinet Members. They should then reconsider the decision having regard to the views of the Policy and Scrutiny Committee within 10 working days, amending the decision or not, adopting a final decision.

Option C: If, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, the matter is contrary to the Budget and Policy framework, refer the matter to Full Council

- 3.4 Further information on Disposal of 24 homes in Hounslow is included in the confidential Cabinet Member report. This is the full report considered by the Cabinet Members on 5 September 2019 and may assist with answering questions from the Committee.
- 3.5 Confidential Appendix B sets out a note provided by the Councillors setting out the background to the reasons for the call-in together with a detailed response.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The financial implications are contained in the Cabinet Member report in the appendices.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The legal implications are contained in the Cabinet Member report in the appendices.

List of Appendices

Appendix A - Statement of Decision – Disposal of 24 homes in Hounslow

Appendix B – Response to call-in (Not for Publication)

Appendix C - Cabinet Member Report, 4 September 2019 – Disposal of 24 homes in Hounslow (Not for Publication)

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WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF DECISION

SUBJECT: DISPOSAL OF HOMES

Notice is hereby given that the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Regeneration and the Cabinet Member for Housing Services has made the following executive decision on the above mentioned subject for the reasons set out below.

Summary of Decision

1. That this report be exempt from disclosure by virtue of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part 1, paragraph 3, in that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
2. That the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Regeneration and the Cabinet Member for Housing Services approved the disposal of 24 units in Hounslow to the organisation and the agreed disposal price as set out in the report.
3. That the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Regeneration and the Cabinet Member for Housing Services authorised the Director of Housing, in conjunction with the Director of Law, to agree the contract terms and to conclude the contract.

Reasons for Decision

Approval of the recommendations will enable the City Council to dispose of the 24 Housing Revenue Account owned units to reinvest in replacement homes to be used for Social Housing.

Stuart Love, Chief Executive
Westminster City Hall
64 Victoria Street
LONDON SW1E 6QP

Publication Date: 05 September 2019

Implementation Date: 12 September 2019, 5.00pm

Reference: CMfFP&R/2019-2020/15
CMfHS/2019-2020/5

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