

Decision Schedule

Chair of Cabinet and Cabinet Member for Social Services



TO ALL MEMBERS OF NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL

Decision Schedule published on 5 November 2019

The Cabinet Members took the following decision on 5 November 2019.

They will become effective at Noon on 13 November 2019 with the exception of any particular decision, which is the subject of a valid "call-in". The deadline for submission of a 'Call-in' request form is 4.00 pm on 12 November 2019.

Information relating to the 'Call-in' process can be found via Democratic Services.

In accordance Reports relating to staffing issues/Confidential reports are not circulated to all members of the Council as part of the consultation/call-in processes.

CC/SS 01/19

Purchase of Asset

Options Considered/Reasons for Decision

There are currently a number of 'looked after' children in out of county residential accommodation. These placements are expensive and outcomes for most of our children in such placements are poor. A project to explore alternative, quality options for this group of vulnerable children has been undertaken. In order to return them to reside within Newport additional residential beds are necessary and £1.5m has been agreed by Cabinet from the capital budget in order to facilitate this.

The property fulfils all the criteria for a property from which a high standard children's home could function:

- At least 5 bedrooms
- Multiple ground floor communal rooms
- Secluded position
- Out of the main town area
- Good outdoor space
- Solid structure
- Scope to provide a classroom on site if necessary.

Planning approval is not required.

A valuation has been undertaken by Don Waters from Norse a survey completed. This has been discussed with NORSE and essential works / refurbishment to bring it up to operational standard agreed, as outlined later in this report.

Initial purchase will be from the agreed £1.5m capital budget, this can be substituted by ICF.

The purchase of residential homes are part of a Gwent-wide strategy whereby only Newport City Council (NCC) and Caerphilly CBC have developed residential accommodation.

The property will accommodate 4 children and 1 staff bedroom.

Capital funding will be used for the refurbishment of the property.

Decision

Newport City Council purchases Property and adjacent land for the sum of £725k and allocates further £395k for essential maintenance / refurbishment to enable it to become operational, £45k other building costs and land transaction costs of £56k - Total budget £1,221k.

Consultation

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People and Business Change, Newport Norse

All members were consulted and provided with an opportunity to comment. Any comments received and responses thereafter are set out in the report.

Implemented By: Newport City Council
Implementation Timetable: Immediate

COUNCILLOR D WILCOX, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR P COCKERAM, CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL SERVICES

5 November 2019

This document is available in welsh / Mae's ffurflen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg
