

## **HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Report To:** Council  
17 July 2018

**From:** Chief Executive

**Subject:** URGENT DECISION TAKEN BY CABINET

All Wards  
Scrutiny Committee

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### **1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:**

- 1.1 This report sets out the details of an urgent decision taken by the Cabinet pursuant to Rule 16 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules (as set out in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution).
- 1.2 In accordance with Rule 15 (i) of the Council's Scrutiny Procedure Rules (again, as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution), any Cabinet decision taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for the urgency.
- 1.3 At a special meeting held on 19 June 2018 the Cabinet considered a detailed report on the possible acquisition of the Lambert Memorial Hospital, Sowerby. The meeting was convened on an urgent basis because NHS Property Services Limited (the seller of the site) had contacted the Council on the afternoon of Friday 15 June 2018 to advise that it required a formal decision on whether or not the Council intended to seek to purchase the former Lambert Hospital by no later than 22 June 2018.
- 1.4 As a consequence the decision could not reasonably be deferred until the next designated Cabinet meeting on 3 July 2018, as this would take the formal decision beyond the deadline imposed by NHS Property Services Limited and risked the Council not being able to purchase the site.
- 1.5 Pursuant to Rule 16 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules the approval was sought and obtained from the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee that the taking of the decision could not reasonably be deferred.
- 1.6 Having considered the report on the possible acquisition Cabinet approved the following:-
  - (1) To purchase the former Lambert Memorial Hospital, Sowerby, for £350,000, and to meet the costs associated with the purchase in accordance with the draft Heads of Terms appended to the report.
  - (2) That Council engage with social, community and voluntary groups and social housing providers in the Sowerby and Thirsk area on schemes which would benefit the social and economic well-being of Sowerby, Thirsk and surrounding areas.
  - (3) That a further report supported by an appropriate business case be brought back to Cabinet for a decision on the final scheme.

- (4) That the Council's call-in procedures shall not apply because the decision is an urgent one and any delay likely to be caused by the call-in procedures would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests.

**2.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 2.1 These are set out in paragraphs 1.1, 1.2 and 1.5 of the report.

**3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

**4.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:**

- 4.1 There are no risks associated with this report.

**5.0 EQUALITIES/DIVERSITY ISSUES:**

- 5.1 There are no equalities or diversity issues associated with this report.

**6.0 RECOMMENDATION:**

- 6.1 That the urgent decision made by Cabinet at the meeting held on 19 June 2018 be noted.

DR JUSTIN IVES  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**Background papers:** None

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