

Supplementary Paper – Cabinet: 11 October 2021

Agenda Item 9 (Proposals for ownership & refurbishment of Granville New Homes Blocks)

Scrutiny of implications for BHM and HRA of proposals for ownership and refurbishment of Granville New Homes blocks undertaken by Community & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on Thursday 7 October 21

Scrutiny Committee recommendations to Cabinet:

- That the officers give assurance that the council has undertaken due diligence reviews of its subsidiary bodies, including governance, fitness for purpose, financial soundness and reputational risk.
- That the officers ensure the Ridge report is made available to the scrutiny committee and audit committee.
- That the officers review arrangements for entering into contracts of this kind, in particular to ensure adequate arrangements are made to ensure appropriate design/build quality – and that the council has appropriate recourse where latent defects are later identified.
- That the officers ensure all potential contractors are made aware of the standards expected by the council – and to ensure these are met before buildings are formally accepted by the council.
- That the council provide written assurance that it has taken or will take independent legal and financial advice (including tax) regarding the proposals and next steps.
- That all contracts procured by the council and its subsidiaries include a review of past delivery of any potential contractors.
- That the council ensures where issues are evident in a particular project, all remaining projects by the same contractor are reviewed as a matter of urgency.
- That the officers review the steps that make-up the procurement, commissioning and contract monitoring system to identify any gaps especially in relation to risk and review aspects. Where these are identified that immediate action is taken.
- That the council put in place arrangements to ensure learning about this case – and any others raising issues of similar significance – is shared across the council as well as with existing and potential future partners/contractors.
- That the officers establish and publish a comprehensive plan for ongoing engagement with residents.