



CALL-IN FORM

For the Attention of: The Head of Chief Executive and Member Services

From: Councillor Michael Maurice

Date: 22 January 2024

Decision: Acquisition of a property in Wembley for the Brent Childrens Care Home Project

- (1) To approve the acquisition of the property (address detailed in the exempt appendix of the report) in Wembley HA9 with vacant possession to meet the needs of young people as outlined in the Brent Residential Home Business Case approved by Cabinet in May 2023.
- (2) To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Children and Young People, to agree the terms of the purchase and acquire the property subject to financial and legal due diligence, vacant possession and contract.
- (3) To note that the completion of the property needs to take place by the end of January 2024 in order to allow sufficient time to renovate the property within the timescales permitted in the grant agreement with the Department for Education (DfE).

Date of decision: Cabinet - 15 January 2024

Five non-cabinet members making request (Note: all five members do not have to be listed on or sign the same form):

	Name of councillor	Signature <i>(only required if submitted in hard copy)</i>
1	Michael Maurice	Via email
2	Suresh Kansagra	Via email
3	Kanta Mistry	Via email
4	Jayanti Patel	Via email
5	Sunita Hirani	Via email

Please provide below an explanation as to why you are calling in the decision and if you are calling in all or part of the decision:

(Note: according to the Protocol On Call-in (Part 5 of the Constitution), call-in requests will not be considered valid if they:

- are used as a means of gaining information/understanding or discussing general concerns with Members and officers,*
- duplicate a call-in on the same issue within the previous six months,*
- are based on reasons already discussed by the relevant Scrutiny Committee prior to the decision being made,*
- concern a decision of the Cabinet referring a matter to Full Council for consideration.*
- concern operational management decisions, or*
- are otherwise considered by the Chief Executive to be frivolous, vexatious or clearly outside the call-in provisions.)*

- (a) We are very concerned at the price being paid for this property which is over £1M. We feel that this is not the best use of the limited Council funds.
- (b) This area is in the Barn Hill Conservation area. It should be treated with respect.
- (c) There has been no consultation with the residents living in and around the site of the property or the Residents Association. This is preventing residents from voicing their opinions and objections. There has been absolutely no democracy or transparency in the matter, residents feel they have been railroaded into accepting any decision the Council makes.
- (d) Neither of the two local ward councillors (Cllr Robert Johnson & Cllr Kathleen Fraser) received any notification of this until immediately prior to the Cabinet meeting on 15th January.
- (e) It appears that no Planning Permission was applied for or granted. If this is the case, then what is the rationale taken as to why Planning Permission was not applied for? No statement appears to have been given.
- (f) The Council is not acting in the interests of the residents in this matter. A similar care home was opened in Barn Hill which caused untold problems for those living in the area. It was only shut down when the local MP (Barry Gardiner) intervened. The residents do not want to have to deal with a similar occurrence.

Please provide below an outline alternative course of action to the decision being called in:

To refer the decision back to Cabinet for reconsideration in order to find a cheaper alternative property in a different area.

Please return this form to a representative of the Head of Chief Executive and Member Services, by email (from your individual email address) james.kinsella@brent.gov.uk at or in hard copy (with signatures) and in person to the Governance Team on the fourth floor of Brent Civic Centre.