
Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Housing & Safer Neighbourhoods
Date	18 December 2017
Present	Councillor Lisle (Executive Member)

28. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests or any disclosable pecuniary interests which he had in the business on the agenda. No additional interest were declared.

29. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2017 be approved and then signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

30. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

31. Shared Ownership Programme 2017-21 - Property Acquisition Strategy

The Executive Member considered a report that proposed a strategy for acquiring properties under the councils £5.52m Shared Ownership programme that was approved at the 18 May 2017 Executive.

The Housing Strategy Manager gave an update and confirmed that following the success in obtaining a funding award from the Homes and Communities Agency the report outlined the approach that would be taken to acquiring property and the criteria in terms of the way in which the council would determine how those acquisitions were made.

The Executive Member was asked to approve the approach highlighted in the report and give delegated authority to the

Assistant Director of Housing and Community Safety and the Director of Customer and Corporate Services to purchase properties in the future.

The Executive Member welcomed the new approach and officers' proactive move towards purchasing homes in the future. He thanked officers for their report and it was:

Resolved:

That the property acquisition strategy be considered and the following be approved:

- (i) That the Assistant Director of Housing and Community Safety in consultation with the Director of Customer and Corporate Services be given delegated authority to approve the purchase of homes for the programme.
- (ii) That flexibility on the balance of the programme between homes delivered on new developments and those on the second hand market.
- (iii) That dwellings be purchased by the council in advance of them being marketed and sold on as shared ownership homes.

Reason:

- (i) To enable a clear and appropriate level of scrutiny before approval is given for purchases of properties whilst also being within a timescale that will not put the council at a disadvantage in a competitive housing market.
- (ii) To enable the council to meet its obligations with the Homes and Communities Agency to acquire at least 15 homes for the shared ownership programme by the end of the 2017/18 financial year.
- (iii) To enable the council to take advantage of opportunities to purchase homes in advance of individual shared owners being identified for them.

Cllr Lisle, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 4.02 pm and finished at 4.07 pm].