

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Leader (incorporating Finance & Performance)
Date	23 July 2018
Present	Councillor Gillies

5. Declarations of Interest

The Executive Leader was invited to declare, at this point in the meeting, any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, or any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests, which he might have in the business on the agenda. No additional interests were declared.

6. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been one registration to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Gwen Swinburn spoke in relation to item 3 (Purchase of Elmwood House), querying why the matter had not been on the Forward Plan and the usual deadlines and procedures followed. In response, the Executive Leader confirmed that the correct statutory and constitutional procedures had been applied for an urgent item.

7. Purchase of Elmwood House (Cemetery Road)

As it involved a key decision, and had been on the Forward Plan for less than 28 days, the matter had been brought to the Executive Leader under urgency procedures, with notice duly given under Regulation 10 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

The Head of Housing explained that urgent approval was needed to secure the purchase of the flats in order to prevent the owner from withdrawing from the sale. He added that the purchase of the flats was for the benefit of York citizens.

In response to a question from the Executive Leader, officers clarified that the cumulative cost for the purchase of the four flats was over £500k.

The Executive Leader noted that the purchase of the flats was beneficial to the city and it was:

Resolved: That the freehold purchase of four one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments at Elmwood House, Cemetery Road, York, for £680,000, be approved.

Reason: To enable the acquisition of these dwellings for the council's Shared Ownership Programme and to ensure that the purchase is not delayed and therefore put at risk of the seller withdrawing from the agreement to sell them to the council.

Cllr I Gillies, Executive Leader

[The meeting started at 9.15 am and finished at 9.25 am].