

Council Housebuilding Cabinet Committee

TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MEMBERSHIP

Terms of Reference

1. To consider and recommend to the Cabinet the Development Strategy for the Council's Housebuilding Programme on an annual basis.
2. To consider and sign-off development appraisals and financial appraisals produced by the Council's appointed Development Agent for sites previously identified by the Cabinet as having development potential and that could be included within the Council's Housebuilding Programme.
3. To approve the submission of detailed planning applications, and/or if more appropriate outline planning applications, by the Council's appointed Development Agent for sites that the Cabinet Committee considers are suitable for development and viable, having regard to the development appraisals and financial appraisals for the sites.
4. To invite ward members to attend meetings of the Cabinet Committee when potential development sites in their ward are under consideration, and to provide an opportunity for ward members to provide comments on proposed developments, before development appraisals and financial appraisals are signed-off and approvals to submit planning applications are given.
5. To approve the subsequent development of sites considered suitable for development and viable that receive planning permission, subject to the acceptance of a satisfactory tender for the construction works.
6. To approve, and include within financial appraisals, the use of the following sources of funding for the development of individual sites within the Council's Housebuilding Programme:
 - (a) The agreed Housing Capital Programme Budget for the Housebuilding Programme;
 - (b) Capital receipts made available through the Council's Agreement with the Department of Communities and Local Government allowing the use of receipts from additional Right to Buy (RTB) sales as a result of the Government's increase in the maximum RTB Discount to be spent on housebuilding;
 - (c) Financial contributions received from developers for the provision of affordable housing within the District, in lieu of on-site affordable housing provision, in compliance with Section 106 Planning Agreements; and
 - (d) Grant funding received from the Homes and Communities Agency.
7. To approve the submission of the Council's Pre-Qualification Questionnaire to the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), applying for Investment Partner status with the HCA.
8. To consider and accept tenders received for the construction works on sites included within the Council Housebuilding Programme.
9. To determine whether, in addition to the potential development sites already considered by the Cabinet, sites with development potential within the following categories should be added to either the Housebuilding Programme's Primary List or Reserve List and detailed development appraisals and financial appraisals undertaken by the Council's Development Agent:
 - (a) Other specific garage sites comprising 6 or less garages;
 - (b) Specific garage sites where garage vacancies arise with no waiting list of applicants; and
 - (c) Specific areas of Council-owned land on housing sites considered to be surplus to requirements.

10. To determine whether sites on the Reserve List of potential development sites previously agreed by the Cabinet should be promoted to the Primary List, and detailed development appraisals and financial appraisals undertaken by the Council's Development Agent, due to:
 - (a) There being insufficient numbers of properties that can be viably developed from the Primary List of potential development sites to deliver a Housebuilding Programme of 120 new homes over a six-year period; and/or
 - (b) The Cabinet subsequently deciding to increase the size of the Housebuilding Programme and there being insufficient numbers of properties that can be viably developed to deliver a larger Programme.
11. To monitor and report to the Cabinet on an annual basis:
 - (a) Progress with the Council Housebuilding Programme; and
 - (b) Expenditure on the Housing Capital Programme Budget for the Council Housebuilding Programme, ensuring the use (within the required deadlines) of the capital receipts made available through the Council's Agreement with the Department of Communities and Local Government allowing the use of receipts from additional Right to Buy (RTB) sales as a result of the Government's increase in the maximum RTB Discount to be spent on housebuilding.
12. To oversee the delivery of the Marden Close, Chigwell Row Conversion Scheme scheme, and in particular to:
 - (a) consider the Development and Financial Appraisals;
 - (b) approve the submission of a detailed planning application and approve the scheme being undertaken, subject to the estimated works costs being acceptable;
 - (c) approve the proposed procurement methodology of the works contractor;
 - (d) award the works contract for the conversion scheme, following the receipt of competitive tenders; and
 - (e) agree the capital budget requirement for the Housing Capital Programme;

Membership

Housing Portfolio Holder (Chairman)
Finance and Technology Portfolio Holder
Planning Portfolio Holder
Environment Portfolio Holder
Safer, Greener and Highways Portfolio Holder

Frequency of Meetings

As and when required, as determined by the Housing Portfolio Holder.