

CABINET

**Urgent Business Report
8 October 2013**

Report of Chief Officer (Governance)

PURPOSE OF REPORT			
To advise Members of actions taken by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members.			
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referral from Officers			X
Date of notice of forthcoming key decision			n/a
This report is public			

RECOMMENDATION

1.0 That the actions taken by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, in respect of the following, be noted:-

1.1 REQUEST FOR THE CITY COUNCIL TO GIVE AGREEMENT FOR AN APPLICATION TO BE MADE TO THE DCLG TO FUND A PROJECT TO TACKLE PROBLEMATIC HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

- (1) That the Chief Executive under urgent business agrees to Lancaster City Council submitting an application to the DCLG Rogue Landlords funding, subject to there being no additional cost implications for the City Council.
- (2) That the General Fund Revenue Budget is updated accordingly, split across relevant financial years, in the event that the application is successful.
- (3) That consultation is undertaken with a view to waiving call in, in accordance with Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rule 17, to enable the decision to be implemented immediately.

2.0 Background

In July 2013 the Housing Minister announced that £3 million was being made available to help Local Authorities tackle acute and complex problems with rogue landlords in their area and details were received on 12th August. Initially it was perceived that the funding was aimed at authorities in the south of England to deal with the "beds in sheds" landlords. On further reflection after returning from annual leave in the first week of September, the Housing Standards Officer thought that a good business case for a project similar to one carried out in the west end a few years ago could be made.

Notice of this key decision (in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, Part 3, was provided on 11 September 2013 under regulation 11 enabling the decision to be taken on 19 September. However, as the deadline for the application was 20 September 2013, the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (in accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 17) was consulted and agreed to waive the five day call-in period in order for the decision to be implemented immediately.

After consulting with the Leader and the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Housing, and with the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny, the Chief Executive took the decision.

3.0 Conclusion

Approval was given to the above action, which is reported to this meeting in accordance with the City Council's Constitution, Part 4, Section 4, Cabinet Procedure Rule 1.10(b).

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK	
Comments were contained in the original report.	
CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, HR, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)	
Comments were contained in the original report.	
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
Comments were contained in the original report.	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	
Comments were contained in the original report.	
OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
Comments were contained in the original report.	
SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
Comments were contained in the original report.	
MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
Comments were contained in the original report.	
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