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CABINET

31 AUGUST 2022

(7.16 pm - 7.24 pm)

PRESENT Councillors Councillor Ross Garrod (in the Chair),
Councillor Eleanor Stringer, Councillor Stephen Alambritis,
Councillor Billy Christie, Councillor Caroline Cooper-Marbiah,
Councillor Brenda Fraser, Councillor Natasha Irons,
Councillor Andrew Judge, Councillor Sally Kenny and
Councillor Peter McCabe

ALSO PRESENT Councillor Paul Kohler

Hannah Doody (Chief Executive), Caroline Holland (Director
Corporate Services), Roger Kershaw (AD Resources), Richard
Ellis (Interim AD Strategy Commissioning and Transformation),
Louise Round (Managing Director South London Legal
Partnership), Paul McGarry (Head of Future Merton), Robert
Cayzer (Interim Head of Cabinet Office) and Amy Dumitrescu
(Democracy Services Manager)

PRESENT

REMOTELY Councillor Nick McLean

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

At the start of the meeting the Leader of the Council announced that Item 4 would not be required. The Leader then spoke on the recent events at Galpins Road, expressing that the thoughts of all at the Council remained with those affected.

No apologies for absence were received. Councillors Irons and Judge attended remotely.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

3 HOUSING DELIVERY (Agenda Item 3)

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services presented the report, noting that four Council-owned sites were granted planning permission in 2020 however since permission was granted there had been various policy changes and updates to building regulations and therefore updates were required prior to development. The Cabinet Member gave an overview of the recommendations within the report and proposed the report.

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Sustainable Development addressed the meeting, noting more than 9,500 people were currently on the housing waiting list and the plan would enable 93 homes to be built on those four sites following the necessary architectural work being completed.

RESOLVED:

1. That Cabinet noted the options appraisal work currently underway to deliver genuinely affordable housing on council owned sites.
 2. That Cabinet agreed to transfer £300,000 from the corporate contingency to Environment and Regeneration to update the approved plans for four council owned sites; bringing them up to current building regulations and sustainability standards prior to development for affordable housing.
 3. That delegated authority be given to the Director of Environment and Regeneration, in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Finance and Corporate Services and Housing and Sustainable Development, to approve the award of contract post approval by Procurement Board.
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4 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC (Agenda Item 4)

The Cabinet meeting was conducted in public and this item was therefore not required.