

CABINET (SPECIAL)

Minutes of a hybrid webcast meeting on 9 September 2022 at 9.00 a.m.

Present

In County

Hall: Councillors Martin Dowey (Chair), Brian Connolly, Stephen Ferry, Martin Kilbride, Lee Lyons and Bob Pollock.

Present

Remotely: Councillors Alec Clark and Ian Davis.

Attending

In County

Hall: E. Howat, Chief Executive; C. Caves, Head of Legal, HR and Regulatory Services; M. Newall, Assistant Director – People; K. Anderson, Service Lead – Policy, Performance and Community Planning; D. Yuille, Service Lead – Special Property Projects; A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer; C. Buchanan, Committee Services Officer; and C. McCallum, Committee Services Assistant.

1. Valedictory and Opening Remarks.

The Chair made reference to yesterday's passing of Queen Elizabeth II and thereafter, the Cabinet held a minute's silence.

The Chair took the sederunt, confirmed to Members the procedures to conduct this meeting and advised that the meeting was being broadcast live.

2. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest by Members of the Panel in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

Buildings, Housing and Environment.

3. Call-in for the Transfer of the Site of the John Pollock Centre to the Housing Revenue Account.

Reference was made to the Minutes of the Audit and Governance Panel of 7 September 2022 (Page 2, paragraph 2) when that Panel had considered the terms of a call-in from the Cabinet of 30 August 2022 (Page 3, paragraph 7) in relation to the transfer of the site of the John Pollock Centre to the Housing Revenue Account.

It was noted that the Audit and Governance Panel had agreed, following discussion and review, to remit the report back to the Cabinet with the recommendations that the Cabinet consider if the consultation was materially flawed and required remedy; and to ascertain if the additional cost of demolition to be borne by the Housing Revenue Account met the Best Value criteria.

The Panel heard from the Chair of the Audit and Governance Panel and the Portfolio Holder for Buildings, Housing and Environment.

Following a question from a Member of the Panel and having heard the relevant officer in response, the Cabinet

Decided: to agree

- (1) to confirm the decision taken at the meeting of the Cabinet on 30 August 2022, namely:-
 - (a) to note that the consultation carried out by the Director - Place with tenants and the public had been largely in favour of the proposed transfer of the site from the General Fund to the HRA for nil consideration; and
 - (b) to grant authority to transfer the site of the John Pollock Centre from the General Fund to the HRA at nil value ahead of a proposed residential development in accordance with the explanation set out in the report and provided that the Council's Housing Revenue Account met the abnormal costs of £3,222,539; and
- (2) therefore, that the matter be referred to a special meeting of the Council to be held later this morning for determination.

The meeting ended at 9.17 a.m.