



Towns & Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

REPORT

5 December 2012

Subject Heading:

Disused land adjacent to Melville Road
Allotments, Rainham

CMT Lead:

Andrew Blake-Herbert
Group Director, Finance & Commerce

Report Author and contact details:

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Policy context:

Financial summary:

The disposal of the land identified in this report would generate a capital receipt that would accrue interest until it was used to deliver the capital programme.

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Ensuring a clean, safe and green borough | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Championing education and learning for all | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Providing economic, social and cultural activity in thriving towns and villages | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Valuing and enhancing the lives of our residents | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Delivering high customer satisfaction and a stable council tax | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

SUMMARY

In accordance with paragraph 17 of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee Rules, a requisition signed by two Members representing more than one Group (Councillors Keith Darvill and Jeffery Tucker) has called in a decision of the Cabinet dated 7 November 2012.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee considers the requisition of the decision of Cabinet Report and determines whether to uphold it.

REPORT DETAIL

At its meeting on 7 November 2012, Cabinet decided:

- 1. That the disused land adjacent to Melville Road Allotments be declared surplus and authorisation be given for a disposal of about 1.53 acres and for the creation of additional allotment plots in respect of about 0.6 acres of land in accordance with the allotment waiting list requirements for the site. The disposal would be subject to obtaining any necessary planning permissions and other consents as appropriate. The Property Strategy Manager in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) to be authorised to deal with all matters arising and thereafter to complete the disposal of the site identified. The disposal would be subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.**
- 2. To approve the principle that the land should be appropriated for planning purposes subject to the relevant statutory processes and that the Property Strategy Manager, in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal & Democratic Services) be authorised to undertake these processes and for the Lead**

Member for Value to consider any objections received and whether to confirm the appropriation.

Reasons for the requisition:

The reasons for the 'call-in' are:

- 1 Before making the decision to appropriate land, change its use and dispose for development details of the borough wide and local/ward area demand for allotments (including current waiting lists) should be disclosed in the Cabinet report and be fully taken into account.
- 2 Subject to consultation with local allotment societies and the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners before such land is deemed surplus and available for disposal alternative community use of the land should be considered and form part of the report to Cabinet.

Background Papers List

- Appendix A – Notice of Requisition
- Appendix B – Cabinet Report 7 November 2012
- Appendix C – Draft Minutes

