



Overview & Scrutiny Board

5 February 2014

REPORT

Subject Heading:

Estate Improvements – Highfield Road

CMT Lead:

Andrew Blake-Herbert
Group Director, Finance & Commerce

Report Author and contact details:

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Policy context:

Financial summary:

The proposals included within this report amount to £1.853m which can be contained within the HRA Capital Programme for 2015/16

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 Ray Morgon & Lawrence Webb) have called in the Cabinet decision of 21 January 2015.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board considers the requisition of the decision of the Cabinet Decision and determines whether to uphold it.

REPORT DETAIL

A Cabinet decision was agreed on 21 January 2015, the decision taken was to:

Cabinet Agreed:

1. Agreed to establish a Residents' Steering Group to oversee the improvement deliver programme, and comment on the proposals
2. Agreed to consult the residents on the possibility of renaming the Highfield Road estate and the individual blocks to names which reflect the celebrations due to take place on 9 September 2015.
3. Approved the expenditure of £1.853m from the HRA capital programme of 2015/16 to carry out the improvements detailed in **Appendix 1**. This approval would be subject to Council ratification (see financial implications).
4. Authorised officers to invite tenders from appropriate building firms to carry out the proposed works.

Reasons for the requisition:

The reasons for the 'call-in' are:

1. The full cost, process (including timescales) and implications in re-naming the Highfield Road estate have not been fully disclosed for both residents and the Council.

2. No evidence has been provided to demonstrate that the area is neglected and suffers from a lack of demand for Council or private housing.
3. No details have been provided on the re-alignment of priorities and why such a decision is required.
4. No evidence is provided to demonstrate the poor environment of the entire estate.

Background Papers List

Appendix A – Notice of Requisition

Appendix B – Cabinet Report 21 January 2015