



## Notice of NON KEY Executive Decision containing exempt information

This Executive Decision Report is part exempt and Appendix 1 is not available for public inspection as it contains or relates to exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. It is exempt because it refers to financial information/valuation and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

<b>Subject Heading:</b>	<p>10 Oldchurch Gardens, Romford, RM7 0DL (located on regeneration site)</p> <p>Housing Scheme for the acquisition of leasehold &amp; freehold properties in Regeneration Estates</p>
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	<p>Councillor Joshua Chapman Cabinet Member for Housing</p>
<b>SLT Lead:</b>	<p>Bernadette Marjoram Interim Director of Housing</p>
<b>Report Author and contact details:</b>	<p>Ian Nolan Sales and Marketing Officer</p> <p>Property &amp; Land Services London Borough of Havering Mercury House Romford, RM1 3DS t 01708 431217 <a href="mailto:ian.nolan@havering.gov.uk">ian.nolan@havering.gov.uk</a></p>
<b>Policy context:</b>	<p>The purchasing of this property will contribute to the London Borough of Havering's Housing Strategy, and will support the Council's vision of Putting Our Residents First.</p>

<b>Financial summary:</b>	This purchase will provide an additional unit for use as rented social housing.
<b>Relevant OSC:</b>	Towns and Communities OSC
<b>Is it an urgent decision?</b>	YES
<b>Is this decision exempt from being called-in?</b>	Yes - exempt from call-in, as it is a Non-key Executive Decision by a Member of Staff

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

Communities making Havering	[X]
Places making Havering	[X]
Opportunities making Havering	[X]
Connections making Havering	[X]

**Part A – Report seeking decision**

<b>DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION</b>
<p>The London Borough of Havering is planning an estate regeneration project which encompasses 12 different estates. As part of the initial stages of the project, the Council will purchase leasehold and freehold properties within those estates as part of its 'site assembly' obligations. The initial outline for the 12 estates project was reported to Cabinet on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016.</p> <p><b>10 Oldchurch Gardens RM7 0DL</b> has been identified as a property to purchase as part of this project. <b>The property is a two bedroom leasehold flat within a 3 storey block in the Romford Town Ward/ Brooklands Ward.</b></p> <p><b>The purchase of this property enables the Council to use the property for social housing and prevents the need for a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) later.</b></p> <p>After consideration of an independent valuation report and knowledge and expertise of the councils property services and legal services it has been recommended to proceed with the purchase of the property at the purchase price of <b>£210,000</b> (Excluding all standard additional costs), please refer to Appendix 3 for full details. This price has been negotiated and agreed by <b>Hilbery Chaplin</b> Surveyors.</p> <p>The recommended action is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To note that a purchase price of <b>£210,000</b> (excluding all standard additional costs) has been successfully negotiated for the acquisition of the leasehold interest in the property and that the price of <b>£210,000</b> has been agreed following negotiations by <b>Hilbery Chaplin</b>, Surveyors.</li> <li>2. To agree to proceed with the recommendation to purchase the leasehold interests in the property referred to above at the agreed price and on the terms outlined in this report.</li> </ol>

3. To note also those external legal advisers will be instructed to prepare and complete the legal documents which will enable the purchase to be completed.

#### **AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE**

Powers of Members of the Senior Leadership Team under Part 3, Paragraph 3.3 of the Council's Constitution "Financial Responsibilities":

(a) To incur expenditure within the revenue and capital budgets for their allocated portfolio as approved by the Council, or as otherwise approved, subject to any variation permitted by the Council's contract and financial procedure rules.

(b) To oversee the delivery of programmes agreed by Council and cabinet.

#### **STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

The purchasing of **10 Oldchurch Gardens, Romford, RM7 0DL** will have the following benefits for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA):

- Provide an additional unit of Social Housing.
- Reducing the need for CPO's for **Romford Town Ward/Brooklands Ward**

#### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

Option: To not purchase the property and move the existing resident on a timely basis.

Reason for Rejection: This has been rejected as not purchasing on a timely basis may result in having to invoke CPO which may cause delays and additional costs.

#### **PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION**

The following have been consulted over the proposed transfers & easements -

Legal Services and Property Services.

**NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER**

Name: Ian Nolan

Designation: Sales and Marketing Officer

Signature:

Date: 31/07/2019



**Part B - Assessment of implications and risks**

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

The Council has the power to acquire houses and land under section 17 of the Housing Act 1985. The power does not preclude the repurchase of former council properties.

It is understood that external solicitors will be instructed to deal with the conveyancing.

The purchase will be subject to the necessary legal due diligence taking place.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

Please see Financial Exempt Report – Appendix 3

**HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS  
(AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)**

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable HR risks or implications that would affect either the Council or its workforce.

**EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

It is not considered necessary to enter into an Equalities Impact Assessment in relation to buying this property. The purchase will be completed after the standard property purchase negotiations using standard contract format, undertaken with the expressed consent of the owner; therefore an EIA is not considered relevant.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

**APPENDICES**

- Appendix 1 Valuation report for **10 Oldchurch Gardens, Romford, RM7 0DL**
- Appendix 2 Land Registry for **10 Oldchurch Gardens, Romford, RM7 0DL**
- Appendix 3 Financial Exempt Report for **10 Oldchurch Gardens, Romford, RM7 0DL**

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

**Decision**

Proposal agreed

**Checked and approved by:**

Signed



**Name:** Ian Brady

**Head of Service Title:** Interim Property Services Manager

**Date:**

**Details of decision maker**

Signed



23/09/19.

**Name:**

Bernadette Marjoram

Cabinet Portfolio held:

CMT Member title:

Head of Service title:

Interim Director of Housing Manager

Other manager title:

**Date:** .....

**Lodging this notice**

The signed decision notice must be delivered to the proper officer, Debra Marlow, Principal Democratic Services Officer in Democratic Services, in the Town Hall.

**For use by Committee Administration**

This notice was lodged with me on 26/9/2019

Signed

