

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: THURSDAY, 31 AUGUST 2023
title: DELEGATION TO PURCHASE TWO TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION UNITS
submitted by: NICOLA HOPKINS – DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
principal author: RACHAEL STOTT – HOUSING STRATEGY OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To request Committee's agreement to purchase two temporary accommodation units within the Borough to add to our stock of temporary accommodation.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To meet the housing needs of all sections of the community.
- Corporate Priorities - To match the supply of homes in our area with the identified housing needs.
- Other Considerations - To deliver the Council's approved five-year capital programme.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Earlier this year Full Council approved the Council's five-year capital programme. This Committee was advised of the approved capital programme for 2023/24 at the 23 June 2023 meeting.

2.2 One of the capital schemes is the Temporary Housing Scheme which secured £304,580 for the purchase of two units of accommodation; one in Clitheroe and one in Longridge. Annex 1 to the report details the scheme approved.

3 ISSUES

3.1 To progress this matter and to be able to secure properties in the current housing market, delegation to purchase is sought.

3.2 The preference would be to purchase a ground floor, 1 or 2 bed flat in both locations. Ground floor flats ensure the accommodation is accessible, affordable, and suitable to provide temporary accommodation for single people or families who present as homeless. There is an increased demand for temporary accommodation and therefore it is important we secure additional units that will be suitable for the different household types that present to us. The accommodation selected will be based on market availability and price including any necessary renovation works. This will ensure that accommodation is secured as quickly as possible within budget.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – The capital budget of £304,580.00 is approved as part of the Council's five-year capital programme.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – At the point of purchase legal will be involved in the acquisition.
- Political – None.
- Reputation – None.
- Equality & Diversity – Accessibility and all housing needs will be considered.

5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

- 5.1 Grant delegated authority to the Director of Economic Development and Planning in consultation with Chair of Health and Housing, to negotiate and purchase two temporary accommodation units in line with the 2023/24 capital programme.

RACHAEL STOTT
HOUSING STRATEGY OFFICER

NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

For further information please ask for Rachael Stott, extension 3235.

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