

Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board

Recommendations from the meeting held on 16May 2016

Council Cabinet Agenda – 16May 2016

Items 6 &8 Cattle and Wholesale Market – Property Rationalisation Update

Members considered public and exempt reports of the Cabinet Member for Communities and City Centre Regeneration in relation to an update on the property rationalisation programme, with specific regard to the Cattle and Wholesale Markets.

Members queried the urgency and confidential nature of the report and expressed concerns about the lack of information provided to the public on the detail of the decision. Members requested that the final public version of the report and agreed recommendations should include detail on the reasons for bids being unsuccessful as outlined in paragraphs 4.10, 4.11 and 4.12 of the exempt report, without revealing the names of those bidders, in order to better explain the council's position. Members also requested that the report should offer a clearer recommendation in relation to paragraph 4.12 of the exempt report.

The Board discussed the options considered and recommended that should no bids be considered successful to maintain operation of the Cattle and Wholesale Markets, a further option to consider sale of the site with the buildings remaining in situ be considered prior to any demolition works. Members also requested splitting the sale of the wholesale and cattle markets into two separate redevelopment opportunities is considered. Furthermore, it was recommended that planning conditions, terms or obligations should be included in any agreement to encourage timely completion of works if the site is sold for redevelopment.

Members also requested that any future reports on property rationalisation should have any policy/strategy document amended for consideration alongside relevant decisions.

It was resolved to recommend to Council Cabinet that:

- 1) The final public version of the report and agreed recommendations should include detail on the reasons for bids being unsuccessful as outlined in paragraphs 4.10, 4.11 and 4.12 of the exempt report, without revealing the names of those bidders, in order to better explain the council's position;**
- 2) The report should offer a clear recommendation in relation to paragraph 4.12 of the exempt report.**
- 3) Should no bids be considered successful to maintain operation of the Cattle and Wholesale Markets, a further option to consider sale of the site with the buildings remaining in situ be considered prior to any demolition works;**
- 4) Splitting the sale of the wholesale and cattle markets into two separate redevelopment opportunities is considered.**

- 5) Planning conditions, terms or obligations should be included in any agreement to encourage timely completion of works if the site is sold for redevelopment; and**
- 6) Any future reports on property rationalisation should have any policy/strategy document amended for consideration alongside relevant decisions.**