

By: Mr Paul Carter – Leader of the Council
Mr Peter Sass – Head of Democratic Services

To: County Council – 29 March 2012

Subject: Quarterly Report on Urgent Key Decisions – Sheerness Gateway

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: To report an urgent Key Decision taken in the last quarter.

1. The Constitution requires the Leader to provide a quarterly report to the County Council of any Key Decisions which were taken as urgent matters during the previous three months.
2. The urgent Key Decision on the Purchase of 38-42 High Street, Sheerness, ME12 1NL (Sheerness Gateway) was taken in the last quarter as set out below. This was an exempt matter.

Purchase of 38-42 High Street, Sheerness, ME12 1NL (Sheerness Gateway) (12/01873)

An urgent exempt key decision was taken on 24 February 2012, by Mr Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Business Strategy, Performance and Health Reform to authorise the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support to purchase the freehold interest of 38-42 High Street, Sheerness.

This matter was deemed urgent as the property, in respect of which KCC were committed to a 20 year lease expiring in 2030, was being sold for investment at auction. Substantial cost savings to be made from purchasing the property included negation of ongoing rental liabilities, dilapidation liabilities, the write off of capital works, having the flexibility of use and the freehold ownership of the building.

Consultations

The Chairman and Spokespersons of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee were consulted about this matter and agreed that the decision should be taken as a matter of urgency.

Recommendation

3. The County Council is requested to note this report.

P B Carter
Leader of the Council

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Background documents: Records of Decision 12/01873