

CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

FRIDAY, 1 November 2024

PRESENT: Councillor: A. Lenny (Cabinet Member).

The following officers were in attendance:

S. Jones, Tenancy Support Lead
P. Edwards, Valuations Manager
J. Owens, Democratic Services Officer

Virtual Meeting - 10.00 - 10.28 am

1. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

2. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE DECISION RECORD OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 5TH SEPTEMBER 2024

RESOLVED that the decision record for the meeting held on the 5th September 2024 be signed as a correct record.

3. REPORTS NOT FOR PUBLICATION

RESOLVED pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation)(Wales) Order 2007 that the following items were not for publication as the reports contained exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 12 and 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

4. FORMER TENANT DEBT WRITE-OFF

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 3 above not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 12 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act).

The public interest test in this matter related to the fact that the report included personal data relating to former council tenants, including details of their rent arrears. The publication of individual rents is unwarranted and outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information therein as disclosure would be an unwarranted and excessive intrusion into the private and family lives of the individuals concerned.

The Cabinet Member considered a report prepared in accordance with the Council's Procedure Rules, providing the current position on current and former tenant debt and seeking the write-off of those debts in excess of £1,500.

The Cabinet Member noted the cases outlined in the report and considered the individual reports for each of the current and former tenants detailing the reasons why write-off was being sought which included personal circumstances.

RESOLVED that the current and former tenant debt arrears detailed within the report be written-off as irrecoverable.

5. FIRST FLOOR OFFICES, FORMER MYRDDIN DAY CENTRE, JOHN STREET, CARMARTHEN

Following the application of the public interest test it was RESOLVED pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 3 above not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act).

The public interest in maintaining the exemption referred to above outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information contained within the report as disclosure of the information could undermine the council's position in any other negotiations regarding this and other similar properties in the County, to the detriment of public finances.

The Cabinet Member considered a report in respect of the lease of the first floor of the former Myrddin Day Centre, John Street, Carmarthen.

The Valuation Manager appraised the Cabinet Member of the special circumstances of the case and consideration was given to alternative options for the lease. The proposals put forth for consideration required the approval of the Cabinet Member to override the usual policy of offering the building on the open market on the basis of the economic, community and health benefits of the services provided by the tenant, as detailed within the report.

RESOLVED that:

- 5.1 a 10-year lease be granted to Carmarthen Domestic Abuse Services;**
- 5.2 the lease be offered without advertising the building for rent on the open market;**
- 5.3 the first two years be rent free.**

CABINET MEMBER

DATE