

NOTICE TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - EXECUTIVE PROCEDURE RULE 5.6

In accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 5.6 (Special Urgency) of the Council's Constitution, notice is hereby given that a matter which is a key decision, and which has been included on the Forward Plan, needs to be determined urgently and cannot reasonably be deferred.

Purchase of James William House, Cowie Drive, Selby

The current Selby District Council Forward Plan (September 2020 to December 2020) was published on 5 August 2020. The likely date of the decision detailed above to be taken by the Executive was originally listed on the Forward Plan as 3 September 2020.

However, the report was not available for publication for the agenda for the meeting on 3 September 2020 and as such the decision was intended for deferral until the 1 October 2020 meeting of the Executive. The decision was also publicised on the Forward Plan as fully exempt and private as per Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the LGA 1972 (commercially sensitive information).

It has subsequently come to the attention of Officers in recent days that the site is now advertised to be sold at auction on 10 September 2020. The solicitors acting for the vendor have advised the Council that they are withdrawing from the previously agreed sale to the Council.

Authority from the Executive is required prior to the auction if the Council is to seek to purchase the land. Such a decision needs to be taken using urgency provisions that bypass the requirement for 5 clear working days' notice between report publication and the meeting itself.

The decision remains fully exempt and private as per Paragraph 3 of the Schedule 12A of the LGA 1972 (commercially sensitive information), and as such will be considered by the Executive in private at the conclusion of the public business of the agenda, at its meeting on 3 September 2020.

The decision cannot wait until the next ordinary meeting of the Executive scheduled for 1 October 2020, in light of the proposed auction.

As a result of this notice and with the agreement of the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee, the decision to purchase James William House may be made by the Executive under urgency at its meeting on 3 September 2020, without the requirement for 5 clear working days' notice having elapsed from the date of this notice.

This notice is served and published in compliance with Executive Procedure Rule 5.6.

J Waggott
Chief Executive
2 September 2020

Contact details for further information: Julian Rudd, Head of Economic Development and Regeneration - jrudd@selby.gov.uk