
REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL – MOTION ON NOTICE – ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION

To: **Council – 24 April 2014**

By: **Director of Community Services**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All Wards**

Summary: **To inform Council of the decision of Cabinet following Council's referral of the motion on notice relating to the operation of the Article 4 Direction in respect of houses in multiple occupation for between 3 to 6 residents**

For Information

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 On 27 February 2014, Council received a motion on notice, proposed by Councillor Wiltshire and seconded by Councillor King, as follows:

“THAT This Council calls upon the cabinet to review the operation of the Article 4 direction as used within the planning department of Thanet District Council. To residents of St Peter's ward, it is quite clear that the Article 4 direction powers are not properly applied; lack coherence and application on the ground; and are not being used in the way other councils apply them to the advantage of residents who need family homes rather than back door entry points for HMO's, which change the character and nature of the area.”

- 1.2 Council referred this motion without debate to Cabinet for determination or report.

2.0 The Current Situation

- 2.1 Upon considering the motion at its meeting on 3 April 2014, Cabinet RESOLVED
- 2.1.1 “THAT Cabinet invites the University to comment on residents' concerns and will keep the situation under review both now and until it is covered by a policy in the new local plan”.
- 2.2 The report to Cabinet, which explained the background to and effect of the existing Article 4 Direction relating to Houses in Multiple Occupation in Thanet for between 3-6 people, set out the new interim approach to interpreting policy H11 and explained work in progress in reviewing the position as part of a new local plan, can be viewed on the Council's website, www.thanet.gov.uk, as can the notice of Cabinet's decision.

3.0 Corporate Implications

3.1 Financial and VAT

3.1.1 As stated in the report to Cabinet

3.2 Legal

3.2.1 As stated in the report to Cabinet

3.3 Corporate

3.3.1 As stated in the report to Cabinet

3.4 Equity and Equalities

3.4.1 As stated in the report to Cabinet

4.0 Recommendation(s)

4.1 This report is for Council to note.

5.0 Decision Making Process

5.1 Cabinet's decision is being reported to Council for information.

Contact Officer:	Madeline Homer, Director of Community Services, Ext 7002
Reporting to:	Sue McGonigal, Chief Executive and S.151 Officer, Ext 7002

Annex List

None	
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	N/A
Legal	N/A