

AMENDMENT OF NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

Council:	13 October 2022
Report Author	Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Jill Bayford, Cabinet Member for Housing
Status	For Decision
Classification:	<i>Unrestricted</i>
Ward:	All Wards

Executive Summary:

The Council has received an amendment to notice of motion regarding the purchase and creation of further temporary housing units. This report informs Council of that amendment.

Recommendation(s):

With reference to the options in section 2.0 of the report, Council is invited to consider the amended motion.

Corporate Implications:

Financial and Value for Money

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Any proposal for the acquisition of additional temporary housing units should be subject to the appropriate governance arrangements. Ideally, such a scheme would be considered as part of the annual process for setting the council's capital programme, however, alternatively if it is necessary to consider a proposal outside of subject to thorough process then the acquisition or creation of units must be subject to a thorough financial appraisal and business case review.

Legal

Council Procedure Rule 3.7 states that: "the Member whose name appears first on the notice will move the motion during his or her speech and call for a seconder. If seconded, a Member from the controlling political group will be entitled to a reply, after which the motion shall stand referred without further discussion to the Cabinet or appropriate committee for determination or report unless the Council decides to debate the motion in accordance with

Rule 16" (*rules of debate*)

Corporate

Council Procedure Rule 3 provides the opportunity for Councillors to give advance notice of motions to be put to Council.

Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty

Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Protected characteristics: age, sex, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.

There are no specific equalities issues arising from this report.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- Communities

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 An amendment to the motion previously submitted to the Council for consideration at this meeting has been received. This report updates the Council on that amendment.

2.0 Current Situation

- 2.1 The following motion was received from Councillor Whitehead in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 3 on 28 September:

"As we are all aware there is a spiralling housing crisis in Thanet, and levels of private sector evictions are increasing, especially within low income households.

In light of this rise in evictions, and the impossibility of finding and maintaining a private rental property on the current LHA allowance, our need for temporary housing to keep families in area is continually growing. As a Council we acknowledge and recognise the need for purchase and creation of further temporary housing units now, before further inflation makes the necessary growth of our in house provision impossible, and urge Cabinet to bring forward such plans."

- 2.2 In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3.6 Councillor Whitehead and Councillor Everitt have today made the following amendment to the motion Councillor Whitehead originally submitted:

“the removal of the words "purchase and creation of”

This makes the revised Motion the Council are asked to consider the following:

"As we are all aware there is a spiralling housing crisis in Thanet, and levels of private sector evictions are increasing, especially within low income households.

In light of this rise in evictions, and the impossibility of finding and maintaining a private rental property on the current LHA allowance, our need for temporary housing to keep families in the area is continually growing. As a Council we acknowledge and recognise the need for further temporary housing units now, before further inflation makes the necessary growth of our in house provision impossible, and urge Cabinet to bring forward such plans."

- 2.3 Council should note that Council Procedure Rule 3.6 allows for the amendment of a motion of notice prior to its presentation to Council, as such there is no need for a vote to accept the amendment, Council should simply consider the revised motion as outlined at paragraph 2.2 above.
- 2.4 It is still the case that a Member moves the motion and if it is seconded by another Member, the motion stands referred to Cabinet without debate as this relates to an Executive/Cabinet function, unless Council decides to debate the motion.
- 2.2 If Council does decide to debate the motion, at the end of the debate Council can only refer the motion to Cabinet, as the subject of this motion is an Executive/Cabinet function.
- 2.3 Members may choose not to support or second the motion, in which case it falls.

3.0 Decision Making Process

- 3.1 It is for Council to refer a motion to Cabinet if the subject matter is about an executive/cabinet function, either with or without a debate.

Contact Officer: Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager
Reporting to: Sameera Khan, Interim Head of Legal and Monitoring Officer

Annex List

There are no annexes with this report.

Background Papers

There are no background papers with this report.

Corporate Consultation

Finance: Chris Blundell, Acting Deputy Chief Executive & Section 151 Officer

Legal: Sameera Khan (Interim Head of Legal & Monitoring Officer)