

## Request for Call In – Pro-forma – proposed amendments

*Date: 27<sup>th</sup> April*

*Please arrange for a meeting of the Housing and Neighbourhoods Committee*

*O&S*

*to be called to discuss the following executive decision:*

*Title: Development of Housing at Dawberry Fields Road*

*Taken By: Cabinet*

*On: 25 April 2023*

### Reason for request:

Criteria	Yes/No	Brief Explanation
<b><i>(a) Is the Executive decision within existing policy?</i></b>		
1. the decision appears to be contrary to the Budget or one of the 'policy framework' plans or strategies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This policy is contrary to the objectives City of Nature, Birmingham's Transport Strategy and requirement to secure best value and make best use of our assets.
2. the decision appears to be inconsistent with any other form of policy approved by the full Council, the Executive or the Regulatory Committees	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. the decision appears to be inconsistent with recommendations previously made by an Overview and Scrutiny body (and accepted by the full Council or the Executive)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b><i>(b) Is the Executive decision well-founded?</i></b>		

Criteria	Yes/No	Brief Explanation
4. the Executive appears to have failed to consult relevant stakeholders or other interested persons before arriving at its decision	☒	There has been no engagement with residents, local services and park users. Officers have failed to engage with members and potential partners in a way that enables us to bring forward a development that is both fair and green. This is despite local members repeatedly offering to help facilitate a design the community could support. This proposal will take out significant green space – and there has been no in-depth engagement with partners driving City of Nature or who could provide a more affordable and relevant net zero housing option.
5. the Executive appears to have overlooked some relevant consideration in arriving at its decision	☒	The proposal has sought to impose a Passivhaus development on green space, where its benefits would not be best utilised. No best course of action or option appraisal has been undertaken to establish whether the development and method of construction is appropriate to the site, or if another would be better for this trial. There has been no biodiversity study, despite this land being left to grow semi-wild for 15 years.
6. the decision has already generated particular controversy amongst those likely to be affected by it or, in the opinion of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it is likely so to do	☒	We have tried to engage with officers constructively for over 18months and have highlighted the scheme limitations, and risks to the Cabinet Member and senior officer who accepted there has been a failure of process. We have no desire to fight development and have repeatedly told officers we would welcome a constructive approach to get a development that suits this area- however the Executive are seeking to tick a box and do a development no matter what the real outcome is.

Criteria	Yes/No	Brief Explanation
7. there is a substantial lack of clarity, material inaccuracy or insufficient information provided in the report to allow the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to hold the Executive to account and/or add value to the work of the Council	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This is an expensive method of construction that requires for maximum efficiency certain usage. It is also wasted on an area with good air quality overlooking a park. The Council in their responses have shown they do not understand this and will be imposing on tenants and the HRA an expensive model that will perform badly for the climate and community.
<b><i>(c) Has the Executive decision been properly taken?</i></b>		
8. the decision appears to give rise to significant legal, financial, governance or propriety issue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The failure to undertake an option appraisal looking at other development options and to look at this from a place perspective suggests BCC is incapable of understanding its place-shaping role. It further suggests this site is being used to trial a certain type of housing, regardless of its suitability, in order to force through a trial - rather than looking first at what that site and community need, and working around that.
9. the notification of the decision does not appear to have been in accordance with council procedures	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Councillor



Lisa Trickett

(Signed)

(Print Name)

Councillor



David Barker

(Signed)

(Print Name)