



# Doncaster Council

## EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS - DECISION RECORD

The following decision was taken on **17<sup>th</sup> September 2021** by the:-

### **Cabinet Member for Housing and Business**

Date notified to all Members: **20<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

End of the call-in period is 5.00 p.m. on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021**.

This decision will not be implemented until after this date and time.

Present: Councillor Glyn Jones, Dave Richmond (Chief Executive of St Leger Homes of Doncaster)

Apologies: None

#### **1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE**

Park Homes Sites.

#### **2. DECISION TAKEN**

1. Agree to install fire barriers;
2. Note the design of the fire barriers;
3. Note the anticipated cost (final cost will be determined by tender);
4. Confirm that the cost of the works will not be recharged to the residents;
5. Agree to the submission of a planning applications and subsequent tender of the works.

#### **3. REASONS FOR DECISION**

To ensure that the sites are safe and the risks to property associated with the spread of fire from mobile home to mobile home are mitigated.

#### **4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

1. Following the increased focus on fire safety following the of the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower, St Leger Homes were asked to review the fire safety issues associated with historic spacing issues between mobile homes on the councils residential sites.



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2. Proposed actions to bring the 'risks to life' issues to a tolerable level were set out in the report presented to Executive Board in April 19. The risk to life issues have been addressed.
3. Four options to address the safety issues associated with the 'risk to property' as a result of spread of fire between mobile homes were also presented. Executive Board approved the option of giving residents choice of removing their extensions to re-establish the separation distances and if residents refuse, to install a fire barrier along the boundaries between mobile homes.
4. Unfortunately, consultation with residents have, in the main, not been productive in so far as the majority do not want to remove extensions. It should be noted though that in all but 12 cases, given the original layouts and constraints of the sites, removal of extensions would still not deliver the required 6m separation distance and therefore some form of fire barrier would still be needed. It was therefore decided not to pursue the removal of extensions, but to design and install appropriate fire barriers to mitigate the risk of to property as a result of fire spreading through radiation.
5. Consideration has previously been given to the 'Do Nothing Option', which may be the preference of the majority of residents on the sites, however it would leave the council in a position where it had fire risk assessments that identify a clear risk that we would not be able to mitigate to a tolerable level. Adopting the Do Nothing Option would leave the council open to significant legal challenge and liability should it take this option and a fire happen in the future and there be significant damage to property, injury to persons or a fatality. It is therefore continues not the recommended way forward.
6. Discussions with the Director of Economy & Environment in his role as Accountable Person under the Building Safety Bill have taken place and he is supportive of the recommended approach.

## **5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

None.

## **6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION**

Not exempt.

## **7. RESPECTIVE DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**



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<b>Dave Richmond, Chief Executive, St Leger Homes of Doncaster</b>
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Signed

Chair/Decision Maker