

**NEW HOMES FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS- SCHEME APPROVAL- LYNCHET
CLOSE**

CONSERVATIVE GROUP AMENDMENT

To add recommendation 2.2 as shown in bold italics below.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.2 That Policy, Resources & Growth Committee instructs the Executive Director, Finance & Resources to carry out a thorough audit and value for money exercise into the base build costs of the Council's house building programme with the results to be reported to the Audit & Standards Committee and any recommendations therein referred to the Housing & New Homes Committee as soon as possible***

Proposed by: Councillor Bell

Seconded by: Councillor Janio

Chief Finance Officer comments:

Additional assurance work, over and above that already undertaken as part of due process, would cost an estimated £15,000 - £25,000. These costs would be additional and cannot be absorbed within the council's current budget. They would arise from the engagement of an independent Quantity Surveyor and an audit of the cost benchmarking process applied. The charge would need to be absorbed by the Housing Revenue Account.

Recommendations if carried to read:

- 2.1 That Policy, Resources and Growth Committee note and approve the recommendations as set out below, as recommended for approval by Housing and New Homes Committee:
- i. Approve that the Environmental Services land marked with hatching in Appendix 1 be appropriated to the Housing Revenue Account for a nil capital receipt for planning purposes to enable the whole vacant Lynchet Close site to be developed for new council housing;
 - ii. Approve a budget of £2.532m for the Lynchet Close scheme in the HRA Capital Programme which will be financed through a mixture of HRA borrowing and retained Right to Buy capital receipts.

2.2 That Policy, Resources & Growth Committee instructs the Executive Director, Finance & Resources to carry out a thorough audit and value for money exercise into the base build costs of the Council's house building programme with the results to be reported to the Audit & Standards Committee and any recommendations therein referred to the Housing & New Homes Committee as soon as possible