

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

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Report Originator	Martin Hammond	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i>	
Wards Affected	William Knibb	30 th October 2019	
Title	RESPONSE OF THE EXECUTIVE - WELLINGTON HOUSE		

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide members with details of the response of the Executive Committee to the referral made by Research and Development regarding the shortfall in temporary housing provision caused by the closure of the Wellington House facility.

2. INFORMATION

- 2.1 At its meeting on 25th June, the Research and Development Committee considered a report on homelessness and temporary accommodation, which highlighted the rising level of homelessness across the Borough and set out the Council's strategy for meeting demand.
- 2.2 The Committee expressed concern that Wellington House, which provided temporary accommodation and support for homeless people, had been closed earlier in the year after its owners, Home Group, changed their business model. The Committee asked that the Executive Committee's attention be drawn to the need to replace Wellington House as a matter of urgency.
- 2.3 At its meeting on 18th September, the Executive Committee received a report detailing the concerns of the Research and Development Committee and discussed the issue of homelessness and temporary accommodation in the Borough at length, after which it was:-

RESOLVED that the Executive Committee:

- i) noted the Research and Development Committee comments concerning Wellington House and that officers were actively working closely with Home Group to bring the premises back into use; and
 - ii) that should this not be possible, officers would formulate proposals for replacement facilities to be submitted to the Executive Committee
- 2.4. Since then officers have had positive discussions with Home Housing Association about bringing the premises back into use in the future.

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3. CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

3.1 None at this stage.

4. POLICY and RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The loss of the accommodation at Wellington House has contributed towards the added pressures and consequent costs of homelessness in the Borough.

5. LEGAL and EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None at this stage.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None as a direct result of this report

7. RECOMMENDATION

That the Research and Development Committee is asked to note the Executive Committee resolution concerning Wellington House and subsequent positive progress in bringing it back into use.

Background Papers:

Previous Reports/Minutes:

Research and Development Committee – 25th June 2019

Executive Committee – 18th September 2019

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