

CABINET - 13TH FEBRUARY 2019

PUBLIC INTEREST TEST – EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE OF DOCUMENTS PARAGRAPH 14 SCHEDULE 12A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

SUBJECT: BRYN BRITHDIR, OAKDALE BUSINESS PARK – RENEWAL OF CCBC AND WG JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENT FOR FIVE YEARS

REPORT BY: DEPUTY MONITORING OFFICER

I have considered grounds for exemption of information contained in the report referred to above and make the following recommendations to the Proper Officer:-

EXEMPTIONS APPLYING TO THE REPORT:

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (paragraph 14).

FACTORS IN FAVOUR OF DISCLOSURE:

There is a public interest in the way in which the Council enters into contractual arrangements and manages its financial affairs.

PREJUDICE WHICH WOULD RESULT IF THE INFORMATION WERE DISCLOSED:

The report contains detailed information about the current negotiations and information regarding the renewal of a joint venture agreement between the Council and Welsh Government and includes financial information which may be of commercial benefit to other tenants and their advisers, property developers and speculators if it were to be made public.

MY VIEW ON THE PUBLIC INTEREST TEST IS AS FOLLOWS:

That paragraph 14 should apply. I am mindful of the need to ensure the transparency and accountability of public authorities for decisions taken. However disclosure of the information contained in the report could prejudice the Council's longer term proposals should this information be made public.

On that basis I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider these factors when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED DECISION ON EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE:

On the basis set out above I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, and that the report should be exempt.

Signed: New York

DEPUTY MONITORING OFFICER

Dated: 1st February 2019

I accept/de-not the recommendation made above.

Signed:

Post:

Proper Officer

Date: 5/2/19