EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL 25 January 2024 CABINET RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to Council made at the Cabinet meeting held on 25 January

On 5 January 2024, Government invited local authorities to express their interest in increasing their delivery of the Local Authority Housing Fund in 2023/24, across either the LAHF1 or LAHF2 scheme.

The Council has expressed an interest in replicating LAHF2 and has applied for an allocation of £0.76m funding from Government and will add £1.02m of its own funding to provide 2 large resettlement homes and 2 temporary accommodation ("TA") homes by the 29 March 2024 deadline.

The Council can return unspent funding to the Government should it wish or be unable to deliver all the housing.

The Cabinet is to consider the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources immediately before this Extraordinary Council meeting. Cabinet is recommended to:

RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL

- i) Proceed with the application for, and receipt of, the grant allocation for the Council to provide or facilitate the provision of 2 large resettlement homes and 2 temporary accommodation homes.
- ii) Approve capital spend of £1.78m in the 2023/24 capital programme.

REASONS

- i) To apply for, receive and use the grant to help purchase / provide more affordable homes for the district.
- ii) Full Council must approve the capital budget.
- iii) Subject to Council approval, to avoid the requirement to seek Cabinet's approval for the purchase by Horsham District Council of each individual property that would otherwise be required to give effect to this initiative.