

**Responses to Asset Rationalisation Recommendations 220608-13-1  
to 220608-13-5**

**220608-13-1**

**To provide all Councillors with the opportunity to comment on the draft Community Asset Policy as part of the consultation process.**

The policy will be sent to all ward Councillors as part of the consultation process.

**220608-13-2**

**Consult with this Committee on the finalised draft Community Asset Policy prior to it being adopted**

The committee will be consulted with prior to the policy being adopted.

**220608-13-3**

**To consider the following points for inclusion in developing the Community Assets Policy:**

- a) **A clear timeline set out for community groups expressing an interest in purchasing an asset with consideration given to the timeframe set out within the national Asset of Community Value Policy**

A timeline is set out within the draft policy, which suggested the process should take up to 32 weeks, this is slightly longer than the time allocated within the national Asset of Community Value Policy.

- b) **Where possible, within the constraints of the requirement to achieve best consideration, to build in measures to encourage “Sell Local” with increased time frames to allow local groups or consortiums to establish sufficient finances**

The placing of voluntary restrictions sales will affect the Council’s ability to ensure best consideration. However, marketing of assets for sale will be undertaken locally, as well as nationally. Where possible increased timescales will be built in to enable local groups to establish sufficient finances, provided it doesn’t disrupt the forecast for capital receipt income expected.

- c) **Built in controls to ensure no conflict of interest for members and officers can influence sale of assets**

Once established, the terms of reference for the group to asset business cases under the community asset policy process will include the expectation for members and officers to declare conflicts of interest.

**d) Ensure adequate consultation with relevant Ward Councillors and Community groups prior to the sale of community assets**

Consultation with ward councillors on the sale of assets is already incorporated into the process for community assets. Community groups will be consulted with when taking decisions to cease local services and when an asset is identified as appropriate for continued community use.

**220608-13-14**

**To develop and maintain a public register of assets sold by private treaty**

The official definition of private treaty is any sale which has undergone a negotiation, which would include every sale the council undertakes. The land registry already records and publishes property sales, therefore the sale of Council properties is already published. The property team maintain a register to those properties sold via special purchaser.

**220608-13-15**

**To consider further increasing the use of private agents to assist with current capacity issues within the property team**

We already use private agents where it is considered appropriate to supplement skills and capacity.