

STATEMENT OF THE DECISION TAKER

Response of the Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy to the Call In objections to the Cabinet decision on nominations to the Gloucester City Homes Board.

This decision should not be referred for further consideration due to the following considerations:

1. Presumption in favour of openness; and clarity of aims and desired outcomes

It is agreed that the wording of the summary of the decision published in the Forward Plan may, in retrospect, be perceived to be misleading however there was no intention to mislead. The title of the report however accurately reflects the report contents as the report discusses nominations to the GCH Board.

The report discusses options regarding the current approach to GCH Board nominations and ceasing to nominate to the GCH Board was always one possible decision that could be recommended as is the case with any decision.

2. Presumption in favour of openness; and clarity of aims and desired outcomes

There is no requirement for all Council Members be consulted in respect of decisions that relate to all wards and it is normal for decisions of this type to be considered by Cabinet.

The length of any meeting bears no relevance to whether any item has been subject to due consideration. It is wholly appropriate for meetings to be concise and effective where members have prepared thoroughly prior, and reports discuss the subject topic clearly, and recommendations are clear and transparent.

It is not considered that tenant and leaseholder consultation by GCH is required prior to any decision made by the council regarding its nominations to the GCH Board. It will be for GCH to consider whether consultation may be appropriate following the implementation of any decision by the council.

3. Clarity of aims and desired outcomes

The report fully discusses the limitations resulting from the current regulations that govern the appointment of council nominated GCH Board members and their ability to engage in the operation of the GCH Board.