

THE OPENNESS OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT BODIES
REGULATIONS 2014/
THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES
(EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS)
(MEETINGS AND ACCESS TO
INFORMATION) (ENGLAND)
REGULATIONS 2012



RECORD OF OFFICER DECISION
TAKEN

Decision Taker: Ken Miles

Subject: The use of Wessex for the legal set-up of Community Land Trusts and technical support for the delivery of community-led affordable housing schemes.

Record of Decision Taken:

The urgent decision to waive Contract Procedural Rules and appoint Wessex to assist communities with the legal set-up of Community Land Trusts without obtaining further quotes or tenders. The urgent decision is taken under delegated powers given to the Chief Executive.

Reason(s) for the Decision: There is only one supplier in the whole of South West (Cornwall, Devon, Somerset and Dorset) that provide this level of technical support to Community Land Trusts (CLTs). They are the original hub set up nationally. The decision is urgent because of Homes England delayed process by 6 months which means that no further delays can be afforded and the next Strategy and Resources Committee (7th October) is too late to action the work required before funding end date of 31st March 2020.

Information: A Homes England bid was submitted in February for possible technical support for CLTs. It was confirmed today by Homes England that the final engrossments would be signed and sealed and funding can go ahead. It is therefore appropriate to now apply for a waiver before going any further. Contract will be funded 90% Homes England and 10% NDC.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision: Devon Rural Housing Partnership via Devon Communities Together have shown interest in taking up further CLT work but as yet do not have the legal/technical expertise.

Declaration of any Conflict of Interest made by any Councillor consulted by the officer or declared when granting the specific authorisation to take the decision (including details of any dispensations granted by the Ethics Committee)

List Of Background Papers that were relied on in making the decision or the decision is based (but not including published works or those which disclose exempt or confidential information (as defined in rule 10 of appendix 15 (Access to Information Procedural Rules) and the advice of a political advisor)

Date that decision was taken: 4th September 2019

Date of Publication of decision:

Financial Implications: (NOTE: Please state if there are any financial implications. If so, state if there are sufficient funds within the agreed budget. If there are not sufficient funds, please state how the decision will be financed)

CHF 2018-20 allocation covers this work.

Consultation undertaken:

The following have been consulted prior to the decision being taken:

Consultee	Consulted Yes / No / Not applicable	Date
Leader	Y	28.08.19
Deputy Leader	Y	28.08.19
Executive Member	Y	Feb 2019*
Ward Member(s)	N/A	
Chief Executive	Y	Feb 2019*
Head of Service (Jeremy Mann)	Y	Feb 2019*
Legal	Y	Feb 2019*
Finance	Y	Feb 2019*

Consulted Feb 2019 as part of the original CHF 2018-20 bid but waiver not required until funding was known to be successful and it was confirmed today by Homes England that the final engrossments would be signed and sealed.

GUIDANCE NOTES TO OFFICERS:

Exempt/Confidential information: Please note that the contents of the decision or background papers must not disclose exempt or confidential information (as defined in rule 10 of appendix 15 (Access to Information Procedural Rules) and the advice of a political advisor) as the record of decision is a public record.

Publication of record: Please forward the decision together with any background papers that have not already been published to Member Services for publication. The record and background papers must be kept by the decision taker for **6 years** from the date that the decision was taken.