

EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF: Executive Member for Growth and Development

LEAD OFFICERS: Director of Growth & Development

DATE: Thursday, 13 February 2020

PORTFOLIO(S) AFFECTED: Growth and Development

WARD/S AFFECTED: Billinge and Beardwood;

KEY DECISION: N

SUBJECT:

Petition regarding application for Local Green Space Designation on Land at Whitehall Road, Blackburn

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report has been prepared to inform the Board that a petition has been received from residents in relation to Council owned land at Whitehall Road, Blackburn. They wish to see the land designated as Local Green Space in the Local Plan and thus protected from development.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:
Notes the petition. The site will be considered for designation through the on-going Local Plan review process.

3. BACKGROUND

In August 2019, an Executive Member Decision report was published for the Growth & Development and Finance & Governance Portfolios regarding "Affordable Homes Infill Development Sites Disposal". The report identified three potential development sites which the Council's Asset Management Group were considering for disposal, and sought Executive Member approval to authorise officers to progress the scheme details. One of these sites was Land at Whitehall Road, Blackburn.

A petition containing 17 signatures, with supporting document, was received on 16th December 2019 in relation to the site. The petition requests that the site should be designated as Local Green Space within the Local Plan, and therefore protected from development.

Residents have set out why they believe that the site should receive the Local Green Space designation within a supporting document (see Appendix 1).

At the time of the Petition Report being prepared, no planning applications relating to the site have been received by the Council.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

The site will be considered for designation through the on-going Local Plan review process. As a result there is no further action required at the present time.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Council is currently working on its new Local Plan and decisions relating to the use of particular sites will be determined through this process.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Part 7 of the Council's Constitution relates to Petitions. This is considered to be an 'ordinary' petition as it is signed by at least 6 local people. This Part also sets out the general parameters of the potential responses or feedback formats that the Council ought to consider in response. This report's recommendation is considered under Part 7 to be an appropriate form of response to formally consider the substantive application.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below.

Option 1 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision.

Option 3 In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision.

10. CONSULTATIONS

None

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

CONTACT OFFICER:	Laura Ainscow-Gorst, , laura.ainscow-gorst@blackburn.gov.uk
DATE:	07/01/2020

**BACKGROUND
PAPER:**