



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

**COUNCIL CABINET**  
**14 JUNE 2005**

Report of the Director of Corporate Services

## **Disposals – Vicarage Road Mickleover**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 To authorise the demolition of the Vicarage Road Children's Home upon closure and to dispose of approximately half the site with the other half being retained for the construction of a new Mickleover library. To approve closure of the public convenience on Vicarage Road, the site of which is needed for the library.
- 1.2 To delegate to the Director of Corporate Services to set the reserve price.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 The children's home will become surplus to Council requirements in the Autumn when the service relocates to St Marks Road. The current Mickleover library is unsuitable for modern service delivery in terms of its size, condition and location.
- 2.2 A group of Members and officers have carried out an option appraisal and the provision of a new library in Mickleover and funding was approved by Council from the 2005/6 and 2007/8 Capital Programme. The level of funding allocated does depend upon the disposal of the surplus part of the site and also on the disposal of the former Horsa building which is let to a local group and which was being held in reserve as a possible alternative site for the relocation of the library. The tenants have indicated that they are interested in purchasing the building.
- 2.3 The public toilets are in poor condition and have no disabled or baby changing facilities and no hand washing/drying facilities. They are fairly remote from the main shopping centre and have low usage. Ward councillors support closure given the levels of anti-social behaviour and the need for the site for the new library. There will be toilet facilities in the new library and there are existing privately owned toilet facilities within the district centre.

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3. None.

## OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4. A number of options were considered by the group for the location of the new library and this was considered the only realistic option. As only part of the site is needed for the library, the remainder can be sold to generate a receipt to offset the cost.

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**Background papers:** Option Appraisal Summary

**List of appendices:** Appendix 1 – Implications

Appendix 2 – Site Plan

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

- 1.1 The Horsa building will be sold under Delegated Powers. It is likely that the development site will be sold by auction for a sum exceeding £300,000 and is proposed that the setting of the reserve price will be delegated to the Director of Corporate Services.
- 1.2 The demolition of the buildings and construction of the new road to serve both sites and improved access to the community centre will be part of the new library scheme.

**Legal**

2. No specific implications.

**Personnel**

3. None.

**Equalities impact**

4. None.

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 5.1 The proposal to build a new library, which this disposal helps to facilitate, comes under the Council's Objectives of a **stimulating and high quality learning environment** and a **lively and energetic cultural life**.
- 5.2 The proposal furthers the priority of **improving customer service in the city centre and locally**.

