MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL



Report of:

Richard Horniman, Director of Regeneration

Councillor Ashley Waters, Executive Member for Regeneration

Submitted to: Executive - 1 September 2020

Subject: Nunthorpe Medical Centre – Disposal [Part A]

Summary

Proposed decision(s)

That Executive approves the proposal to proceed with the disposal of part of the Council's freehold interest in land at Nunthorpe Grange Farm – as detailed within Part B of this Report

Report for:	Key decision:	Confidential:	Is the report urgent?1
Decision to dispose of land	Yes – exceeds the £150,000 threshold.	No	No.

Contribution to delivery of the 2020-23 Strategic Plan					
People	Place	Business			
The delivery of the community focussed development scheme proposed will facilitate provision of beneficial services within the locality and aid the creation of employment opportunities within the Borough	The development of the subject parcel of land will generate significant inward investment and bring a vacant and underused Council asset into far more positive future use.	The proposal to dispose of the subject parcel of land will generate a significant capital receipt for the Council and help underpin its Medium Term Financial Plan.			

Ward(s) affected	
Nunthorpe	

What is the purpose of this report?

1. The purpose of the report is to consider the proposal to dispose of part of the Council's freehold interest in land at Nunthorpe Grange Farm.

Why does this report require a Member decision?

2. The proposal relates to the disposal of an asset deemed to be surplus at a value in excess of the £150,000 threshold.

Report Background

- 3. The subject parcel of land currently forms part of a much larger, and now defunct, agricultural holding at Nunthorpe Grange Farm. With a significant length of frontage on Stokesley Road to its southern boundary, the site abuts existing housing at Nunthorpe upon its western boundary.
- 4. Shown edged on the plan attached as Appendix A of this report, the subject parcel of land measures @ 1.00 Acres [0.4046 Hectares]. Rectangular in shape, the site comprises an open and vacant area of agricultural land, generally flat, and with established boundary hedgerow cover.
- 5. It is proposed that access to the subject parcel of land will be taken via a new highways junction to be constructed on Stokesley Road. The design of the new arrangement will allow the Council to bring forward the subject site, and serve any future requirement to access the adjacent land situated to the north and east of the subject site.
- 6. An Asset Disposal Business Case confirming the status of the subject land as surplus to operational Council requirements is attached as Appendix C to Part B of this report.

What decision(s) are being asked for?

7. That Executive approves the proposal to proceed with the disposal of part of the Council's freehold interest in land at Nunthorpe Grange Farm – as detailed within Part B of this Report.

Why is this being recommended?

- 8. In order to meet the Council's requirements to generate capital receipts, increase annually recurring revenue streams and to bring the subject parcel of land into a far more beneficial use in the future.
- 9. The disposal of the subject parcel of land as proposed supports delivery of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

Other potential decisions and why these have not been recommended

Re-use for operational purposes

10. No Council operational service requirement has been identified.

Other uses

11. Although the site is capable of being used for other purposes, the future use of the site for the purposes of healthcare, as being proposed by the Buyer, is preferred.

Do nothing

- 12. The property would remain in its present state.
- 13. Whilst the subject land would be retained for potential Council use in the future, the liability and responsibility for maintaining and holding the property would remain with the Council in the interim.

Impact(s) of recommended decision(s)

Legal

- 14. No specific legal issues have been created as a result of the proposal.
- 15. The property would be disposed of freehold with vacant possession in accordance with standing disposal protocol.

Financial

- 16. The Council would receive a capital receipt plus fees without the need to incur any further marketing costs.
- 17. The disposal of the site would remove the Council's liability for any future maintenance costs while it remains unused.

The Mayor's Vision For Middlesbrough

18. The decision aligns to the Mayor's priorities around people, place & business by working in conjunction with third party organisations and individuals, such as the Buyer, to deliver both physical and social regeneration.

Policy Framework

19. The proposals do not require any change to the Council's existing policy framework.

Ward

- 20. The property is situated in the Nunthorpe Ward and the respective Ward Members have been consulted.
- 21. Members will be further consulted on any subsequent proposal made as part of the normal planning process.

Equality and Diversity

- 22. A Level 1 (Initial Screening) Impact Assessment (IA) accompanies this report attached at Appendix B.
- 23. The impact assessment identified that the proposal would have a positive impact on the local community and would not represent a concern to equal rights, disability discrimination or the impingement of human rights.
- 24. The Council's development control planning process would also serve to ensure that any future use proposed would be appropriate for the local area.

Risk

25. If the Council chooses not proceed with the disposal as proposed, the current commitment being shown by NHS England to support delivery of a replacement GP Surgery within the locality may be subject to further review, and possibly could even be lost.

Actions to be taken to implement the decision(s)

26. Subject to Executive Committee approval, the Council moves to proceed with the disposal of the subject property as detailed in Part B of this report.

Appendices

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Appendix A – Site Plan – Land at Nunthorpe Grange Farm
Appendix B – Impact Assessment Level 1 – Initial Screening Assessment
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Background papers

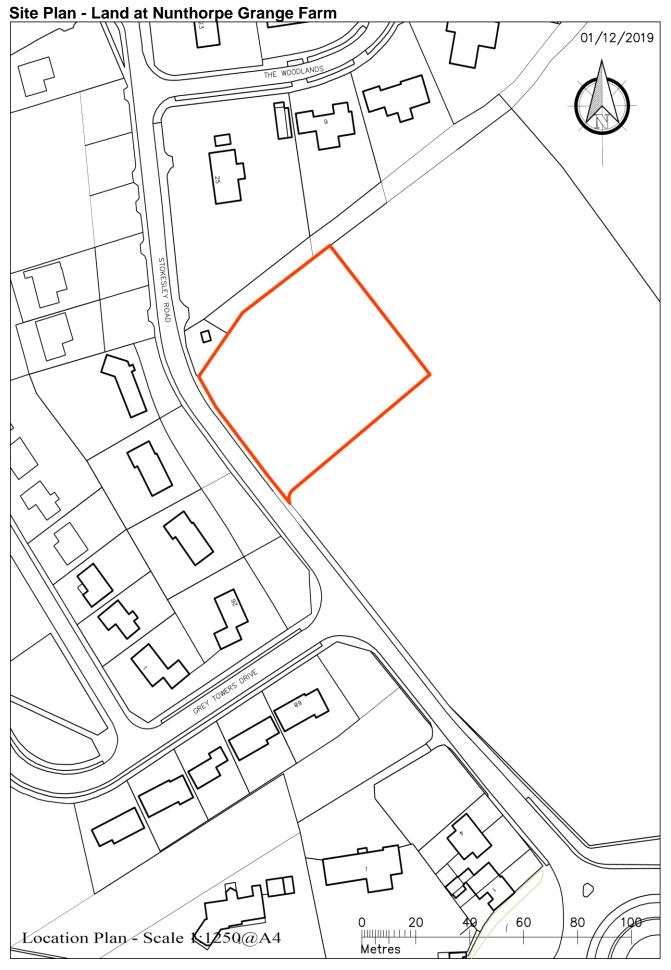
No further reports were used in the preparation of this report:

Body	Report title	Date	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

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APPENDIX A



Impact Assessment Level 1 – Initial Screening Assessment

Subject of assessment:	Part disposal of the Council's freehold interest in land at Nunthorpe Grange Farm, Stokesley Road, Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough TS7 ONB						
Coverage:	Service specific						
	Strategy	Policy	☐ Service	☐ Function			
This is a decision relating to:	☐ Process/procedure	Programme	☐ Project	Revi	iew		
	Organisational change	Other (please state) Asset man	agement				
It is a:	New approach:	\boxtimes	Revision of an existing approach:				
It is driven by:	Legislation:		Local or corporate requirements:		\boxtimes		
Description:	Key aims, objectives and activities To assess the impact of the proposal to dispose of Council property deemed to be surplus to operational requirements. Statutory drivers (set out exact reference) The Local Government Act 1972 Section 123, as amended by the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980 Section 118 Schedule 23 Part V. Differences from any previous approach The subject land has been unused since April 2018. There are no Council staff, or services that will be affected by the disposal proposed. Future use will be for the purposes of redevelopment as a medical centre. Key stakeholders and intended beneficiaries (internal and external as appropriate) The Council, buyer and the local community. Intended outcomes The proposed disposal of the subject site would: • generate a significant capital receipt for the Council; • create new jobs within the borough; • remove the Council's liability for future holding costs, responsibility for, and maintenance of the land, and • help stimulate further development in the local area, and bring the subject site back into a more positive future use.						
Lifespan:	Tuesday 01 st September 2020						
	Not applicable.						
Date of next review:	Not applicable.						

Screening questions		onse		_ Evidence
		Yes	Uncertain	Laudence
Human Rights Could the decision impact negatively on individual Human Rights as enshrined in UK legislation?*				It is considered that the disposal of the subject property will not impact negatively on individual human rights. The proposal represents a significant and positive enhancement for both the locality and the wider area, far outweighing the transfer of the land from the Council's Estate holding. This assessment has been made taking into account: • the fact that the property is vacant, and that no Council staff or services will be affected by the disposal as proposed; • the new jobs that future re-use of the property will create, and • the potential for this proposal to stimulate further economic development within the borough.
Equality Could the decision result in adverse differential impacts on groups or individuals with characteristics protected in UK equality law? Could the decision impact differently on other commonly disadvantaged groups?*				The Council has a duty to consider the impact of the proposed decision on relevant protected characteristics, to ensure it has due regard to the public sector equality duty. Therefore, in the process of taking decisions, the duty requires the Council to have due regard to the need to: (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act; (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it, and (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. Consideration of this duty has shaped the proposals. The site is vacant and fulfils no specific function, purpose or service. In accordance with this position, access to and delivery of Council services will not be affected by the proposed disposal. It is considered that the proposal will not have a disproportionate adverse impact on a group, or individuals, because they hold a protected characteristic. Evidence used to inform this assessment includes engagement to date with relevant Council departmental teams and the proposed purchaser, together with analysis of the terms and conditions that will be incorporated within the proposed sale.

^{*}Consult the Impact Assessment further guidance appendix for details on the issues covered by each of these broad questions prior to completion.

Community cohesion Could the decision impact negatively on relationships between different groups, communities of interest or neighbourhoods within the town?*			There are no concerns that the proposal could have an adverse impact on community cohesion. Evidence used to inform this impact assessment includes the potential for bringing this property back into a far more beneficial future use than that being provided under the current ownership and management arrangement.
Middlesbrough 2025 – Our Vision Could the decision impact negatively on the achievement of the vision for Middlesbrough?*	\boxtimes		The disposal will facilitate regeneration and contribute <i>positively</i> towards the Middlesbrough 2025 Vision – specifically in respect of Aim 2 ('a learning town, in which families and communities thrive), where one of the priorities is for more people to be working. This assessment has been made taking into account the new jobs that will be created in the Borough by bringing this property back into a far more beneficial future use.
Organisational management / Change Programme Could the decision impact negatively on organisational management or the transformation of the Council's services as set out in its Change Programme?*	\boxtimes		No tangible relationship between the disposal of the property and the organisational management of the Council, or the transformation of its services (as set out in its Change programme), have been identified.

Next steps:

⇒ If the answer to all of the above screening questions is No then the process is completed.

⇒ If the answer of any of the questions is Yes or Uncertain, then a Level 2 Full Impact Assessment must be completed.

Assessment completed by:	David Velemir	Head of Service:	Louise Grabham
Date:	14/02/2020	Date:	14/02/2020