



Report title

Expenditure on Counsel's Fees in Relation to Lakanal House Litigation

Meeting

Date

Authority

17 February 2016

Report by

Document Number

Head of Legal and Democratic Services

FEP 2556

Public

Summary

This report seeks authority for the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to incur further expenditure on counsel fees in relation to ongoing and potential litigation concerning Lakanal House and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services' delegation be increased accordingly.

Recommendation

That the report be noted and consideration be given to the related Part 2 report.

Introduction/Background

1. On 17 September 2015 Resources Committee approved expenditure on counsel's fees in relation to litigation concerning Lakanal House, Camberwell. This was to cover both defence of an anticipated judicial review relating to the Authority's investigation of possible criminal offences there and also any substantive criminal proceedings themselves.
2. Judicial Review proceedings have been started. The way the case is being put raises potentially very significant issues for both the Authority and other regulators. The Part 2 report sets out the background and the issues raised. It also sets out the current best estimate of counsel's fees for both matters and seeks authorisation for an appropriate sum.

Head of Legal and Democratic Services comments

3. This report is by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and there are no additional comments.

Director of Finance and Contractual Services comments

4. These are included in the related Part 2 Report.

Sustainable Development implications

5. There are no sustainable implications in this report.

Staff Side Consultations undertaken

6. None.

Equalities implications

7. There are no equality implications.

List of Appendices to this report: None.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985	
List of background documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Financial Position as at the end of June 2015 (Quarter 1) - FEP 2502- Financial Position as at the end of September 2014 (Quarter 2) - FEP 2338	
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