

Notice requesting to call in Single Member Decision E3452

Proposed Closure of Wansdyke Business Centre

The undersigned Councillors wish to call in decision E3452 taken by Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Regeneration & Growth and Cabinet Member for Resources on Thursday 9 March 2023.

To approve Option 3 – closure of the Wansdyke Business Centre and returning the long leasehold to the market, as office, industrial and warehouse accommodation.

1. There has been no opportunity for elected members to scrutinise the proposal.

Whilst the property services and/or economic development officers have clearly had an agenda towards this facility for a long time, their actions have never been scrutinised and the Cabinet Member appears to have been guided to a decision without considering the impacts to the economy, business opportunities nor the negative impact to the climate emergency objectives. There is no clear strategy to achieve anything with the stated aim of returning the long lease ‘to the market’.

2. No scrutiny of the financial implications to both the council nor the community have been established and we wish to have a fuller understanding of the justifications reached in this decision as we believe they do not meet the councils stated aims, especially towards Economic Development, Regeneration & Growth and are detrimental to the Climate Emergency.

Signatures

Councillors:

Colin Blackburn (lead)

Doug Deacon

Sarah Bevan

Vic Pritchard

Sally Davis

Alan Hale

Yukteshwar Kumar

Michael Evans

Karen Walker

June Player

Lisa O’Brien

Brian Simmons

Karen Warrington

Eleanor Jackson

Victor Clarke