

**MOTION SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED BY CLLR DAVID LOADES
SECONDED BY CLLR STEPHEN SWEENEY**

This Council believes that there has been insufficient scrutiny of the sites which have been put forward for disposal in the Asset Management Strategy and calls for the immediate formation of a cross party working group to review all of the processes involved in identifying land for disposal.

This Motion is being put forward as a result of widespread public concern with the current consultation process, which has to date failed to gain the confidence of the electorate. The electorate are concerned, that their voice will not be heard over the decision to sell land assets, which are determined to be surplus by this council. Many of the sites proposed are seen as part of the Boroughs attraction to living here and there are also concerns about some asset sales being around strategic political motivation and not with the benefit to the Borough as a whole.

The motion proposes that this cabinet has failed to convince the market and the electorate that it is not worth investing in other sites or property assets (Other than those mentioned in the Asset Strategy) that would require some expenditure, to bring up to standard for the market. The electorate feel that it would be better to sell these sites seen by many as a blot on the landscape, rather than some of those sites currently under consideration which the public see as their reason for choosing to live there.

This motion believes that the social impact of the sale of these sites along with the revenue gain has not been fully investigated and whilst it is beneficial to make best use of the council assets it is now necessary to ensure that this is the case

This motion proposes that the need to prove the case for sale has not been made and it is now necessary to review this process, that to date the normal scrutiny has failed to do so. This should be done by forming a cross party working group to determine that the planned asset strategy is the best financial way forward, based around this councils budget proposals over the next 3 years. It should also determine that the proposed sale of land for housing is based around the housing need in the Borough. The concern is that if the lack of forward thinking and development initiative has failed to meet the housing need could a better solution be identified to meet the capital need over the next 3 year period, resulting in a better utilisation of our asset program and future borough planning.