

# report



meeting      **CALL-IN SELECT COMMITTEE**

date            9 February 2007

agenda item number

## Report of the Decision Maker

### Property decision to lease the Dakota Building, Space 27, Sherwood Business Park and Latest Estimated Cost

### Decisions – Cabinet 10 January 2007 – agenda items 8 and 20 – CA2007/00018

#### 1.      **Purpose of report**

The above decisions have been called-in by Members, quoting concerns in respect of -

- the propriety of the decision
- proper consultation
- range of options considered
- relevant issues ignored

This report reiterates the sequence of events leading to those decisions, clarifying that the decisions were made following due process and in line with the Council's constitution.

#### 2.      **History and sequence of events**

The search for a property for the NOTTS Connect contact centre has a long and protracted history. This journey dates back to April 2005 and culminated in the decisions taken at Cabinet on 10 January 2007.

During this period –

- an extensive range of property options have been considered
- consultation has taken place with key stakeholders
- a number of issues have been raised and debated ranging from location and suitability to access/transport links and labour market availability.

All key decisions were made following due process and reported openly in the Forward Plan.

Reference should be made to the following –

Date	Meeting/event	Decision/discussion detail
27 April 2005	Cabinet	Consideration of a shortlist of property options for the contact centre.
7 December 2005	Cabinet	Consideration of Ashfield Area Office/Notts Connect project design options and costs.
3 May 2006	Cabinet	Ashfield Area Office/Notts Connect project - latest estimated cost report
13 September 2006	Cabinet	Consideration of a report regarding NOTTS 101 – this included property implications.
10 January 2007	Cabinet	Report requesting lease to be signed for Dakota Building, Sherwood Business Park.

### **3. Financial implications**

The financial implications of the decisions are outlined in the original Cabinet papers (10/1/07). It should be reiterated that the capital fit-out costs for the Dakota building are maximum capital costs and will be reduced following more detailed space planning and negotiation. This work is currently on hold due to this call-in procedure.

### **4. Conclusion**

It is considered that the propriety of the decisions relating to the lease for the Dakota building for occupation by the NOTTS Connect contact centre and new decriminalisation of car parking service have –

- been comprehensive and measured
- been in line with the Council's procedures
- fallen within the delegated powers of the Cabinet
- carried out following consultation
- taken into account a broad range of alternative options
- ensured that all relevant issues have been considered.

**Clr Mick Storey**  
**Deputy Leader**  
**31 January 2007**