

<b>Key Decision Required:</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>In the Forward Plan:</b>	<b>No</b>
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## CABINET

10 JUNE 2016

### REFERENCE FROM COUNCIL

**A.1 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF THE COUNCIL OFFICES, THORPE ROAD, WEELEY**  
(Report prepared by Ian Ford)

#### **PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION**

##### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To report to Cabinet a motion submitted at the meeting of the Council held on 17 May 2016.

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report sets out a motion submitted by Councillor Broderick to the meeting of the Council held on 17 May 2016 relating to the proposed disposal of the Council Offices, Thorpe Road, Weeley and which was referred to the Cabinet by the Chairman of the Council for consideration and report, in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 11.4.

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That, following the explanation of the motion by Councillor Broderick, the Cabinet decides whether to recommend, or not, that the Council supports the motion.**

#### **PART 2 – SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

##### **BACKGROUND**

At a meeting of the Council held on 17 May 2016, the following motion was moved by Councillor Broderick and seconded by Councillor Winfield and, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.4, stood referred to the Cabinet for consideration and report:

*“This Council agrees to sell the premises, Council Offices, Thorpe Road, Weeley for the best possible price.*

*It is no secret that this Council, like many others, is having to fund serious budget gaps in order to run basic services.*

*We are looking at a budget gap of £3.5 million over the next two years, we are in crisis. This council is lucky to have a team of fiscally astute officers who have managed to just about keep the Council's head above water - however there is a limit when faced with the task we now face.*

*We all know that staff numbers have been already cut to the quick so our only option now is look at other areas of expenditure for example to downsize underused or expensive council offices. The obvious choice is the Council's Weeley based building. This building and its running costs is a luxury that the Council can no longer sustain or justify, as I am sure all members of the Council would agree.*

*It is a remote location to most users, antiquated, uninviting and totally inadequate for planning committee public attendance. This 'mausoleum' sends out a message to Tendring residents and tax payers that Tendring Council is old fashioned and has money to burn.*

*This Motion suggests that services currently based at Weeley offices be transferred to the Town Hall.”*

#### **CURRENT POSITION**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.5 Councillor Broderick has been invited to attend the meeting and explain the motion.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR THE DECISION**

None.

#### **APPENDICES**

None.