

Councillor P Honeywood,
Chairman of Resources and Services, Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Town Hall
Station Road
Clacton-on-Sea
Essex
CO15 1SE

24th February 2026

Dear Councillor Honeywood

Delegated Power Ref: Part 3, Schedule 3 and Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, as set out in Part 5.8 of the Constitution.

Request for Consent to gain Exemption from Call-in Procedure

I, the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance, and the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Planning propose to make the following executive decisions: -

On behalf of the Cabinet and using the special urgency powers, in accordance with Parts 3 and 5.8, the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Planning, Section 151 and Monitoring Officers agree:

To authorise the use of up to £310,000 from the Housing Revenue Account Reserves to fund the engagement of resources from Local Government East, to address an urgent need to provide capacity within the Housing Repairs team to meet the Council's statutory obligation in relation to the maintenance of Council Housing Stock.

I enclose a report supporting the proposed decision in relation to this matter for your assistance.

Any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interest for the following reasons:-

Due to the urgent need for the Council to enable there to be a management structure within the housing repairs service by entering into an agreement with LGE, for a period of up to six months, via the use of reserves within the HRA, by the 5th March 2026, the decision to use HRA reserves is proposed using special urgency powers, as set out in Part 3, Schedule 3 of the Constitution.

In addition, in order to meet the deadline to sign up the specialist resource, by 5th March 2026, permission will need to be granted by the Chairman of the Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee to exempt this decision from both the Forward Plan and the 5 day call in period, through the special urgency provisions. This will be made through using Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, as set out in Part 5.8 of the Constitution.

I therefore propose that the decision should be exempt from the call-in procedure by virtue of Rule 18(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 5 of the Council's Constitution. I would be grateful if you would sign, scan and email or post the attached Consent Form back to me indicating whether you agree with this course of action.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Mark Stephenson
Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance

Notes: (1) Delete as applicable; (2) If decision to be taken by Cabinet, insert name and title of Leader.

Cllr Mark Stephenson
Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance
Town Hall,
Station Road,
Clacton

Dear Cllr Stephenson

Delegated Power Ref: Part 3, Schedule 3 and Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, as set out in Part 5.8 of the Constitution. .

Request for Consent to gain Exemption from Call-in Procedure

I refer to the letter from you dated 24th February 2026 concerning exercising the above delegated power in relation to authorising the use of up to £310,000 from the Housing Revenue Account Reserves to fund the engagement of resources from Local Government East, to address an urgent need to provide capacity within the Housing Repairs team to meet the Council's statutory obligation in relation to the maintenance of Council Housing Stock.

In view of the urgency of this decision, I note that you wish to gain an exemption from the call-in process by virtue of Rule 18(ii) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 5.32 of the Council's Constitution.

I agree / ~~do not agree~~* that the decision is reasonable in all the circumstances and that an exemption from the call-in procedure should be applied in this case.



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Cllr, P. Honeywood
Chairman of the Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

24th February 2026
Dated

* *Please delete as appropriate.*

Additional comments (if any):