

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

	Meeting:	Cabinet
	Date:	9 June 2011
	Title:	Leases of Millmoor Stadium
	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services – Planning and Regeneration (RIDO)

Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek authority to negotiate and conclude leases of Millmoor Stadium.

Freedom of Information Act: Exemption under Paragraph 3 (which refers to information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 is requested as this report contains commercially sensitive details.

It is considered that the public interest in maintaining these exceptions outweighs the public interest in waiving the exemptions, as the proposed transaction is commercially sensitive and the Council's position could be prejudiced by disclosure of the information.

Recommendations

6.1 – To authorise the Strategic Director of Environment & Development Services to negotiate and conclude leases of Millmoor Stadium.

7.1 Background

The Town Centre Renaissance Strategy is to create beneficial developments and activities in and around the Guest & Chrimes site. Riverside House is a tangible example of the Council investing to initiate that strategy, together with the proposals to create a new Community Stadium alongside.

An opportunity has now arisen to add a third component to the strategy, namely for the Council to take a lease of the Millmoor site (including car parking). This will enable Rotherham Rugby Union Football Club ("RRUFC") to take an underlease of the stadium, leaving the car parking area within the Council.

This has obvious benefits in relation to the sporting offer in Rotherham whether as a spectator or senior or junior player and, in addition, improves the Council's car parking provisions which will, in turn, benefit the town centre as a whole.

8. Finance

The Strategic Director of EDS will negotiate appropriate terms and conditions. It is envisaged that RRUFC will make the majority contribution to the rental liability and that the Council ameliorate its costs through car parking charges and other arrangements.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Financial risks are to be mitigated through complementary annual break clauses in both the lease and underlease which will form part of the documentation.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

This proposal helps to fulfil the Council's and the former Town Team's strategy for the long term development of Rotherham.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

As the Report requests a decision in principle there are no background papers at this time.

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