



Report of Director of City Development

Report to Licensing Committee

Date: 2 August 2016

Subject: Arena Hotel, Portland Crescent, Leeds

Are specific electoral wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of ward(s): City and Hunslet		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: 10.4(3)		
Appendix number: 1		

Summary of main issues

1. Work stopped on the development of the Arena Hotel site at Portland Crescent in March 2015 when the building contractor and its parent company went into administration.
2. The company which owns the site has subsequently gone into administration and Council officers have been in discussions with both the funder of the project and the administrators of the company as well as with prospective purchasers of the site to try and progress matters so that work starts again as soon as possible.
3. On 18 May, the Chair of City Plans Panel wrote to the Director of City Development expressing the panel's concerns regarding the site and asking the Director to submit a report informing the panel of the current position.
4. The attached report was presented to City Plans Panel on 7 July 2016.
5. The Chair of Licensing Committee has subsequently requested that a copy of the City Plans Panel report be submitted to Licensing Committee for their information.
6. Matters have progressed somewhat since the report was prepared and officers will provide Licensing Committee with a verbal update at the meeting as to the current situation.

Recommendations

7. Licensing Committee is asked to note the contents of the report to City Plans Panel and the current situation as reported at the meeting.