

**QUESTION BY A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC
UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12**

Council Meeting: **Wednesday, 24 September 2025**

Question from: **Gordon Thorpe**

Question to: **Councillor Silvia Dacre**

QUESTION

Why has the Cabinet pursued disposal of The Shay without publishing the full business case, legal advice, or comparisons of alternative options considered, and will you now commit to releasing these documents so the public can see whether Cabinet reached its position independently, or if it was driven by Council Officers under financial pressure?

RESPONSE

The business case for the Shay was not published as it is deemed to be commercially confidential. Two options were considered and any further expressions of interest received within the specified time limit under the Asset of Community Value process will also be considered by Cabinet in advance of the sale proceeding. Cabinet's decision was informed by the exempt documentation including the information provided by the two interested parties.

Cabinet meetings are public meetings and, although the business case was deemed to be commercially confidential, the wider report was given a lengthy introduction and explanation followed by debate and discussion in public at Cabinet on 17 March.