

## **APPENDIX 6: RAF SCAMPTON UPDATE**

On 9th February 2023 Corporate Policy and Resources took the decision to progress with the acquisition and subsequent development partner arrangements to drive forward the regeneration and redevelopment of RAF Scampton. Committee were advised that the costs of delivering the project to this point, which included the cost of managing the compliant procurement exercise were £0.37m and this would be funded by the development partner on conclusion of the development agreement. A fund of £0.475m was approved by committee to further develop this work and to cover ongoing costs associated with achieving the regeneration outcomes.

Shortly after the committee had taken this decision the Home Office intervened and set out plans to utilise the site as a location for non-detained asylum seekers. This proposal has meant that it is not possible to conclude the development agreement at this time.

At an urgent delegated decision meeting held on 28th March 2023 it was agreed that the Council would commence legal action to challenge the decision of the Home Office to utilise RAF Scampton for asylum accommodation and that any associated legal costs would be funded from the £0.475m allocation. At the time of writing the report on the 18<sup>th</sup> of October 2023 legal costs to date were £0.09m.

The Judicial Review proceedings will be heard in the Royal Courts of Justice on 31<sup>st</sup> October and 1<sup>st</sup> November in a hearing with Braintree District Council and Mr Clarke-Holland (of Weathersfield). It is not yet known when the judgement will be handed down.