



COUNCIL – 24TH JULY 2024

**PUBLIC INTEREST TEST – EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE OF DOCUMENTS
PARAGRAPH 14 OF SCHEDULE 12A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

SUBJECT: ACQUISITION OF 75 TO 77 TREDEGAR STREET, RISCA

REPORT BY: HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES AND MONITORING OFFICER

I have considered grounds for exemption of information contained in the report referred to above and make the following recommendations to the Proper Officer:-

EXEMPTIONS APPLYING TO THE REPORT:

Paragraph 14 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

FACTORS IN FAVOUR OF DISCLOSURE:

There is public interest in the way that a council manages its property portfolio.

PREJUDICE WHICH WOULD RESULT IF THE INFORMATION WERE DISCLOSED:

The report contains detailed confidential financial information relating to the proposed acquisition.

MY VIEW ON THE PUBLIC INTEREST TEST IS AS FOLLOWS:

That paragraph 14 should apply.

Whilst there is a public interest in the way the council manages its property portfolio, the report contains confidential financial details of the proposed acquisition of the property at the forthcoming auction. The release of this information at this stage could prejudice the council's ability to purchase the property at a reasonable market value.

For these reasons I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider these factors when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the press and public from this part of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED DECISION ON EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE:

On the basis set out above I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, and that the report should be exempt.

Signed:

Date: 11th July 2024

Post: Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer

I accept the recommendation made above.

Signed:

Proper Officer

Date: 16th July 2024