

# REPORT of DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

to STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 20 NOVEMBER 2025

## TRANSFER OF ALLOTMENTS, BRICKHOUSE FARM, MALDON

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 For the Council to consider the transfer of the allotments at Brickhouse Farm, Maldon to Maldon Town Council ("Town Council").

#### 2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (i) That the Committee agrees for the Council to transfer Brickhouse Farm Allotments, including all associated access points, gates, fencing and allotment boundary hedgerows to Maldon Town Council for consideration of £1:
- (ii) That a restriction is placed on the land to ensure that any future use is only for use as allotments and no commercial development of the land can take place. These restrictions are already in place against the Maldon District Council Title ownership and will be transferred.

#### 3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Council has been approached by Maldon Town Council requesting the ownership of the allotments at Brickhouse Farm, Maldon be transferred to them. A plan of the site is attached at **APPENDIX 1**.
- 3.2 The Council owns the allotments at Brickhouse Farm. These are already managed on our behalf by Maldon Town Council.
- 3.3 A separate water meter for the site has already been installed and is registered to Maldon Town Council. Maldon Town Council pay the water bill.
- 3.4 Maldon District Council maintains the verges surrounding the allotments as part of the general maintenance of the Brickhouse Farm open space. Although a request was received from Maldon Town Council to include any operational verges as part of the transfer, Maldon District Council recommend transfer only of the allotment site and its boundary hedges to enable Maldon District Council to continue the overall maintenance of the open space to ensure uniformity.
- 3.5 Maldon District Council will ensure that Maldon Town Council will have full access to the boundary to allow external maintenance of the Hedge.
- 3.6 There is no income to Maldon District Council from this site, all income from allotment holders already goes to Maldon Town Council.

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# 4. CONCLUSION

4.1 The Town Council already has experience of managing and maintaining this site and fully transferring ownership of this asset to the Town Council will ensure it remains in local control now and in the future for the benefit of the Maldon Community.

# 5. IMPACT ON PRIORITIES AS SET OUT IN THE CORPORATE PLAN 2025 - 2028

## 5.1 Supporting our communities

5.1.1 The transfer of the allotments will allow the ownership to remain with an authority whose purpose is to support the residents of Maldon.

#### 6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) <u>Impact on Customers</u> The change in ownership would have no direct impact on customers as the allotment will remain as allotments in local government control.
- (ii) <u>Impact on Equalities</u> None, all residents will be able to access the allotments as before.
- (iii) Impact on Risk (including Fraud implications) None.
- (iv) <u>Impact on Resources (financial)</u> None.
- (v) <u>Impact on Resources (human)</u> None the legal work can be carried out in house.
- (vi) Impact on Devolution / Local Government Reorganisation The transfer of the allotments will ensure that this asset will be available and maintained by the Town Council who will still exist following Local Government Reorganisation.

Background Papers: Plan of Site (APPENDIX 1).

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