

**REPORT OF:** CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
**TO:** POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
**DATE:** 24<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019

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## **ACE CENTRE – LETTING OF OFFICE SPACE**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to ask the Committee to consider whether to give consent to the proposed letting of office space at the ACE Centre by the Pendle Labour Party given the Council's interest in Pendle Enterprise and Regeneration Ltd (PEARL), the owner of the property.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

2. The Policy and Resources Committee is recommended to consider giving consent to PEARL to let office space at the ACE Centre to the Pendle Labour Party.

### **REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

3. For the Committee to consider the proposed letting, acknowledging that the Council has an interest in the ACE Centre and that the letting is to a Political Party.

### **ISSUE**

4. The Council has been approached by Pendle Enterprise and Regeneration Ltd (PEARL) about a proposal from the Pendle Labour Party to rent office space (1 Unit only) in the ACE Centre, Nelson. The proposed tenancy would be at normal commercial terms negotiated between PEARL and the Pendle Labour Party.
5. As Councillors will be aware, the ACE Centre Offices (comprising the ground floor entrance and 34 Offices located on floors 2 and 3 of the building) are owned by PEARL. PEARL is a joint venture company between Barnfield Investment Properties (which owns 70% of the Company) and the Council (which owns 30% of the Company). As the Committee may be aware, occupancy of the ACE Centre since it was built has been around c30% given limited interest in office lettings in Nelson.
6. Given the Council's interest in the Company, the Committee is asked to consider giving consent to PEARL to let the office space acknowledging that the letting is to a Political Party.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### **Policy**

7. There are no policy implications arising directly from the contents of this report.

### **Financial**

8. There are no financial implications arising directly from the contents of this report.

### **Legal**

9. There are no legal implications arising directly from this report. The proposed letting is a matter between PEARL (a private limited company distinct from the Council) and the Pendle Labour Party.

### **Risk Management**

10. There are no risk management implications for the Council arising from the contents of this report.

### **Health and Safety**

11. There are no health and safety implications arising directly from this report.

### **Sustainability**

12. There are no sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

### **Community Safety**

13. There are no community safety issues arising directly from the contents of this report.

### **Equality and Diversity**

14. No specific issues arising from the contents of this report.

## **APPENDICES**

None

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS:** None