Finance and Resources Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 20 June 2023

Land at Groathill Road North, Edinburgh – Proposed Disposal

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

Routine 5 – Inverleith

1. Recommendations

1.1 That the Finance and Resources Committee approves the disposal of 1,060 sq m of land at Drylaw House, Groathill Road North, to Castle Properties Ltd on the terms and conditions outlined in this report.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

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Report

Land at Groathill Road North, Edinburgh – Proposed Disposal

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The Council has received a request from the owner of Drylaw House, Groathill Road North to purchase land, extending to approximately 1,060 sq m. This report seeks approval to progress the disposal on the terms and conditions outlined in the report.

3. Background

- 3.1 Drylaw House is a Grade A Georgian mansion dating back to 1718. The current owner successfully restored the building and offers it for corporate functions or exclusive use events.
- 3.2 The council owns a triangular section of the original house grounds shown outlined red on the attached plan. The area is within the grounds of the house, has no operational use to the Council and is not accessible to the public.
- 3.3 The owner has requested to purchase the area of land to rectify their title.

4. Main report

- 4.1 The following terms have been provisionally agreed:
 - 4.1.1 Subjects: 1,060 sq m or thereby at Drylaw House, Groathill Road North;
 - 4.1.2 Purchaser: Castle Properties Ltd;
 - 4.1.3 Price: £42,400;
 - 4.1.4 Conditions of purchase: the land to be used for garden ground only and for no other purpose; and
 - 4.1.5 Costs: purchaser responsible for Council's reasonably incurred costs.
- 4.2 The purchase price is based on land sales, for use as garden ground, in the immediate area.

5. Next Steps

5.1 Following Committee approval, Legal Services will be instructed to progress with drafting the essential documentation for the proposed conditional disposal.

6. Financial impact

6.1 A capital receipt of £42,400 will be received in financial year 2023/24, credited to the General Fund.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 Ward members have been made aware of the recommendations of this report.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 None.

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 – Location plan.

