

QUESTION NO 7

By Councillor Whyte for answer by the Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee at a meeting of the Council on 17 March 2022

I refer the Convener to the answer she provided with regard to this site on 12 March 2020. She will recall the details that:

A project team was first initiated for this site in 2014 – some eight years ago;

Committee agreed the site should be redeveloped in January 2016 – some six years ago;

A planning application was lodged in 2018 and then paused with no indication of further progress towards planning permission being publicly obvious – four years ago;

Even taking into account the delay she indicated in buying back homes to allow redevelopment this concluded before her last answer in Summer 2019 – almost three years ago.

Given that two years have now elapsed since her last answer:

Question (1) Can she indicate whether any progress has been made, other than the demolition she indicated was impending in 2020?

Answer (1)

Question (2) Does she consider these delivery timescales acceptable either in terms of providing new social housing or with regard to leaving an empty and blighted site at the heart of a community for so long?

Answer (2)

Question (3) Can she say whether any action can be taken to improve the appearance of the area (other than the graffiti boards which are sometimes damaged by those seeking access to the area) given that the lack of progress means it may be some time before any further work is undertaken?

Answer

(3)