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Action from Corporate Committee and 07 November 2023	
Agenda Item No:	14
Report Title	Question Time
Responsible Officer:	Edward Thomas, Head of Housing and Property Services
Information Sought:	Response:
Update on the sale of portacabins to be sent to all Councillors	<p>A report on the Early Learning and Childcare Service expansion was considered by Audit and Scrutiny Committee on 10 May 2023, including the following recommendation:</p> <p>“As a matter of urgency, a decision is required regarding the future intention of the temporary cabins stored with the supplier. Consideration should be given for the temporary cabins to be used by another establishment or be sold.”</p> <p>Following committee the recommendations were progressed by officers by presenting a paper to the Asset Management Working Group (AMWG) on 14 June 2023, which agreed to declare the units surplus to Council requirements.</p> <p>A report to Council on 28 June 2023 noted that the AMWG had declared the units surplus and delegated authority to the Head of Housing and Property, Chief Financial Officer and Legal Services Manager to complete the disposal of the assets for the best value to the Council.</p> <p>In line with Council procedure the units were initially offered to public sector partners and due to their mobility they were offered via the Association of Chief Estates Surveyors network where in excess of 30 organisations were contacted with information on the units. Following this initial contact 4 public sector</p>

	<p>partners indicated an interest. Discussions were held with each and further information provided. Unfortunately these discussions eventually ended without any formal confirmed interest. At the same time information on the availability of the units was circulated to nursery providers in the Moray area via the Council's network.</p> <p>Once the interest from the public sector partners had been exhausted the units were then openly marketed on the Council's website. This has generated good interest with currently 10 parties still interested in the units. Discussions have been held with all parties with those interested in the units falling into one of two groups charitable/community organisations or businesses. In addition to the interest generated from the marketing, contact has also been made directly with companies who specialise in selling or purchasing modular buildings.</p> <p>Officers are presently evaluating which option constitutes best value for the Council, with the expectation that the units will be disposed of within the financial year.</p>
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