

**MOBILE HOME SITE, ST NEOTS – FAILURE OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY
(Report by the Head of Housing Services)**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Cabinet of the failure of the electricity supply to the mobile home site, the steps taken to rectify the problem, and to seek approval of a supplementary capital estimate and the expenditure of revenue contingency for the necessary urgent replacement works.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The mobile home site in St Neots is owned by the Council and managed by HHP under a management agreement. Residents on the site own their mobile home and pay a ground rent for the pitch. There are 50 pitches on the site.
- 2.2 The utility company provides electricity to a meter on the site and supplies are provided to each mobile home through cables owned by the Council.
- 2.3 On 31 August the electricity supply to some of the mobile homes failed. HHP arranged for an emergency inspection by the utility company who confirmed that the problem lie within the Council's cables and not with the supply to the their meter.
- 2.4 As power could not be restored immediately, two generators were brought in to restore temporary power to each mobile home. In the following days, contractors were used to identify and rectify the fault. As the cause of the fault could not be identified, and to limit escalating costs, a quotation for the replacement of the cables has been sought.

3. IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The estimated capital costs for replacement of the cables and for HHP to manage the project are £60k.
- 3.2 The estimated revenue cost to cover works already carried out to provide temporary power supplies together with aborted attempts to identify the fault plus continuing to provide generators until the works are completed is £20k.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The cause of the fault could not be cost effectively identified and the cables supplying electricity therefore have to be replaced. Temporary power is being supplied to each mobile home during this period and residents are being kept informed of progress.

