

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL**

**County Council  
19<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

**REPORT AUTHOR: Portfolio Holder for Housing & Countryside Services**

**SUBJECT: Question from Linda Savage**

**Question**

**Can the Portfolio Holder assure me and the tenants of Newtown Allotments that our allotment site is not suitable for a housing development and should be retained for allotment use only?**

**Answer**

Following the allotment site being declared surplus by the council's Leisure and Recreation Service in 2016, the Housing Service declared an interest in obtaining the site. The process of transferring the site into the Housing Service is still ongoing and it is currently being established whether the site can be developed.

I can confirm that no proposed plans have been drawn up at this stage as a substantial number of sites throughout Powys are currently being assessed by our Affordable Housing Team. The Housing Service is currently investigating whether there are any grounds that will preclude the development of homes on the site and if this is the case it will not pursue the transfer of the site.

Should there be no restrictive covenants in place which prevent the site being used to provide much needed affordable housing in the town, the Housing Service would provide an alternative site for the provision of allotments with facilities that match those currently provided at the existing site.

Finally, should the Housing Service choose to utilise the site for the provision of new homes sometime in the future, it will need to apply for planning consent. As is the case with all planning applications, anyone affected by any proposed development will have the chance to comment as part of the planning process. However, in such circumstances the Housing Service will engage with the allotment holders prior to the planning application to seek their views.