

MINUTES of a meeting of the **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - PLACES** held at County Hall, Matlock on 6 November 2013.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs K D Lauro (in the Chair)

Councillors Mrs E Atkins, Mrs Janet A Hill, Mrs C A Hart, R L Hosker, T Southerd, S A Spencer and D Williams.

20/13 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4 September 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

21/13 **DISCUSSION WITH CABINET MEMBER** Councillor J Dixon, Cabinet member for Jobs, Economy and Transport and her Deputies, Councillor A Botham and D Collins, attended the meeting to give an update on current work on within her portfolio, focussing upon the work to drive forward the County's economic prosperity. The Cabinet member would attend future meetings focussing upon the other aspects of her portfolio, in particular transport issues where the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee would have a role to play in future decision making.

22/13 **REVIEW OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRESS REPORT** the Improvement and Scrutiny Officer gave an update on the progress that had been made with the staff survey being conducted which arose from the department of Health initiative which encouraged large employers to provide support to any employees who were victims of domestic abuse.

23/13 **VISIT TO MARAC MEETING** Councillor Lauro and Southerd reported on their recent visit to a MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) meeting in South Derbyshire. They had found the experience to be most rewarding and they would encourage all Members to take the opportunity to attend such meetings in the future.

24/13 **WORK PROGRAMME** **RESOLVED** to noted progress on the Committee's work programme.

25/13 **PROPOSAL TO MERGE LOCAL JUSTICE AREAS** HM Courts and Tribunals Service was intending to merge the 3 Local Justice Areas in Derbyshire and had published a consultation document which was presented to the Committee setting out the case for change, a number of options and a supporting statement. The Justices Clerk (Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Cluster) Mr Graham Hooper attended the meeting to outline the proposal and answer Members' questions.

The Committee would seek to include the views of other interested stakeholders in order to enable the Committee to formulate a response to submit to the HMCTS before 16 December.

RESOLVED that the Committee gather evidence from stakeholders and service users and formulate a response for submission to the HM Courts and Tribunal Service.