

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **the IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – RESOURCES** held at County Hall, Matlock on 24 July 2014.

PRESENT

Councillor C R Moesby (in the Chair)

Councillors Mrs C Bisknell, P Dunn, S Freeborn, T A Kemp, M V Longden and S Marshall-Clarke.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor D Lomax.

15/14 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – Resources held on 29 May 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

16/14 **DISCUSSION WITH CABINET MEMBER** Councillor B Ridgway, Cabinet member for Council Services and Councillor J Owen, attended the meeting to give an update on current issues within their portfolio.

Councillor Ridgway gave an overview of the portfolio responsibilities and referred to the budget of £36.2m which was 7% of the Council's budget. A further cut of 26% needed to be made to this budget over the next 4 years. The approach being taken to make these cuts was outlined. Reference was made to service redesign and benchmarking work that was being undertaken. Other initiatives were extending the use of SAP, smarter procurement, the corporate landlord plan and the review of property assets.

Committee members asked a number of questions which were responded to by the Cabinet member.

17/14 **REVIEW OF CREDIT UNIONS** The Committee had agreed to undertake a review of Credit Unions in Derbyshire. The review would look at the number of Credit Unions operating in the county, their effectiveness, challenges and successes and the support they receive from Derbyshire County Council and other sources. Anticipated outcomes included:-

- A clear understanding of the value of Credit Unions to local communities
- Ascertaining the potential for strengthening the role of Credit Unions in the county.

- Identifying the benefits of co-ordination between Credit Unions across the county.

The review would be completed by January 2015 and a working group would be appointed to undertake the review. It was also suggested that the Committee establish the working group for the review of the Trusted Trader scheme as there may be issues that arise that need to be considered as part of that review.

RESOLVED (1) to approve the scope of the review; and (2) to establish a working party to oversee the review comprising Councillors S Freeborn, T Kemp, D Lomax, S Marshall-Clarke and C R Moesby; and (3) that the working group for the Trusted Trader review comprise Councillors Ms C Bisknell, P Dunn, M V Longden, D Lomax and S Marshall-Clarke.

18/14 BUDGET MONITORING RESOLVED to receive copies of the Budget Monitoring reports for Month 9 2013/14 that had been presented to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Policy and Budget.

19/14 WORK PROGRAMME RESOLVED to note progress on the Committee's work programme.