

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - RESOURCES** held on 25 July 2013 at County Hall, Matlock.

**PRESENT**

Councillor C R Moesby (in the Chair)

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

Members declared personal interests in the item on the Property Services Division's budget as they were also members of District Councils that received a service as clients of the Division.

**08/13** **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 7 March 2013 be received.

**09/13** **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY AT DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL** Ms J Wardle, Improvement and Scrutiny Officer, briefed Members on the role and responsibilities of the Committee and the operation of the scrutiny function in the Council.

**10/13** **PROPERTY DIVISION BUDGET PRIORITISATION** Mr J Goacher, Director of Property, attended the meeting and gave a presentation on Property Services within the Council, setting the context and providing a service overview. He outlined the Division's vision and the key services that were provided. The service's priorities and pressures were discussed, with the Division under increasing pressure to demonstrate value for money, retain skills built up over time and maintain key initiatives such as apprenticeships.

**11/13** **MARKHAM VALE** Mr P Storey, Head of Markham Vale, attended the meeting to give a presentation on the development of the project and current activity on the site. This included the objectives of the project – to create 5,000 accessible jobs in a sustainable environment, the development platform, the design features and art within the site. Site occupiers were reported along with details of job creation. The next steps in the project were outlined.

Members welcomed the information and asked that a future meeting of the Committee be held at the site.

**12/13** **NON-OPERATIONAL PROPERTY HOLDINGS** It was proposed that a review be undertaken of the Council's non-operational property holdings. The objectives of the review would be to:

- Consider the Council's approach to streamlining the portfolio of non-operational property;
- Ensure the Council is achieving the best value for money in managing its non-operational property holdings.

Non-operational property was that which was owned by the Council but which was not used directly for service provision. Some of these properties were unoccupied, (some are incapable of being occupied) and some were occupied by other parties.

The Scrutiny review would seek to ensure that any proposals to dispose of non-operational property gave careful consideration to maximising capital receipts and revenue savings, both in the long and short term.

**RESOLVED** that a working group be appointed to oversee work on the review comprising Councillors C R Moesby, P Dunn, S Marshall-Clarke, T Kemp and D Lomax.

**13/13      WORK PROGRAMME** The Committee's draft work programme for 2013/14 was presented. This would form the basis of work over the coming year and would be developed over time.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.