

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY – RESOURCES COMMITTEE

REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S NON-OPERATIONAL PROPERTY HOLDINGS – STREAMLINING PROPOSALS

SCOPING REPORT

25 JULY 2013

1. Purpose of Review

- 1.1 The objectives of this review will 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;

2. Information and Analysis

- 2.1 The Chair and Vice Chair of the Improvement and Scrutiny – Resources Committee have had an initial meeting with the Director of Property as part of their round of meetings with key officers and Cabinet members to help determine work priorities for this Committee.

The Council is about to consider streamlining its portfolio of non-operational property holdings and it was considered timely for the I & S – Resources Committee to take an overview of the process.

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

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

- 2.2 In the process of the review the Scrutiny Committee will, through its appointed working group, consider the following issues;

- that the timing of any proposed disposal gives best value for money
- that opportunities for retaining ownership are fully explored (potentially working with other partner agencies)
- that the process for disposal ensures maximum capital income

3. Potential Information Sources

- 3.1 Information will be drawn from a number of sources internal and external to the Council and will include:
- Director of Property and his senior managers;
 - Director of Finance;
 - Cabinet Member for Council Services ;
 - Other Local Authorities for benchmarking and best practice identification;
 - Other relevant partner organisations as appropriate
- 3.2 This list is not definitive and as the review progresses the working group may feel it appropriate to seek additional information sources.

5. Timescale

- 5.1 It is proposed that the review will be conducted and reach its conclusions and recommendations by the committee meeting scheduled for 14 November 2013.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 That a Working Group be appointed from the Improvement and Scrutiny – Resources Committee to conduct the review.

John McElvaney
Director of Legal Services