

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

PROPERTY SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held in the Darent Room - Sessions House on Tuesday, 17 July 2018.

PRESENT: Mr B J Sweetland (Chairman), Mr N J D Chard (Vice-Chairman), Mr R H Bird, Mrs M E Crabtree, Mr D Farrell, Mr R A Marsh (Substitute for Mr M D Payne), Mr H Rayner and Mrs P A V Stockell (Substitute for Mr J P McInroy)

ALSO PRESENT: Mr E E C Hotson

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs R Spore (Director of Infrastructure), Ms K Ripley (Head of Property Strategy and Commissioning) and Mrs A Hunter (Principal Democratic Services Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

130. Apologies and Substitutes

(Item 1)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr McInroy and Mr Payne. Mrs Stockell and Mr Marsh attended as substitutes for Mr McInroy and Mr Payne respectively.

131. Declarations of Interest by Members in Items on the Agenda

(Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

132. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2018

(Item 3)

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2018 are correctly recorded and they be signed by the Chairman.

133. Motion to Exclude the Press and Public

Resolved that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

EXEMPT ITEMS

(Open Access to minutes)

134. "Policy Return" Portfolio: The Consideration of Social Return Rents

(Item 4)

- (1) Mr Hotson (Cabinet Member for Corporate and Democratic Services) introduced the report which asked the Property Sub-Committee to comment on the Council's current position on social rent and the proposed next steps.

- (2) Rebecca Spore (Director of Infrastructure) provided further detailed information and answered Members' questions.
- (3) In response to questions from the Sub-Committee, Mr Hotson confirmed that officers were preparing a draft policy for the consideration of community rents and that the policy would set out the decision-making process and ensure there was a clear audit trail.
- (4) The Sub-Committee generally supported the report and the development of a clear policy framework in this area.
- (5) Resolved:
 - (a) That this Sub-Committee notes the Cabinet Member's undertaking to bring a policy and decision-making framework to the Policy and Resources Cabinet Committee for endorsement by the end of the year.
 - (b) To recommend that CPI rather than RPI be applied to the rent uplift instead of rent reviews for low value properties.

135. Disposal of land at Langton Lane, Canterbury
(Item 5)

- (1) Mr Hotson (Cabinet Member for Corporate and Democratic Services) introduced the report which asked the Property Sub-Committee to note the current position and agree to continuing negotiations for the possible disposal of potential development land in accordance with the accompanying exempt report and the previous decision taken on 23 June 2014.
- (2) Mrs Spore (Director of Infrastructure) and Victoria Seal (Interim Head of Property Commissioning and Strategy) provided further detail and answered Members' questions.
- (3) Resolved:
 - (a) To note the current position.
 - (b) To agree to the continuing negotiations for the possible disposal of potential development land in accordance with the accompanying exempt report and the previous decision taken on 23 June 2014.