

Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Property, Cultural & Community Services - Monday, 11 July 2016

Statement of Decision

Present:

Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale, Cabinet Member for Property, Cultural & Community Services

Officers: Nigel Cuning (Environment & Economy) and Deborah Miller (Law & Governance).

Also in attendance:

Other Members: Councillor Susanna Pressel

Questions from County Councillors

Councillor Susanna Pressel to Councillor Lindsay Gale

Q. I was surprised to detect no sense of urgency whatsoever in the report.

A. The report seeks approval of revisions to policy – it does not cover implementation, past or future.

Q. In these extremely difficult times we need to carry out comprehensive “place reviews” to identify where we can make better use of our assets and where we can release all that are surplus to our current requirements, whether by transfer to community groups or in other ways. Please can you tell me when this will happen and how?

A. A programme of Place Reviews is being developed to focus upon key areas that hold the potential to deliver opportunity to better utilise assets, this is being prioritised as part of the transformation programme. Crucially, the suggestion that we release all that are surplus to our current requirements is not the sole key measure, we need to assess both our current *and* future requirements, and the opportunity presented by our asset ownership in the widest sense.

Q. Who will carry out these reviews – do we have enough staff with the necessary skills?

A. Reviews will be carried out by officers from Property and Service Directorates, led jointly by the Director of Transformation and the Director of Environment & Economy drawing upon local knowledge held by elected members, residents and businesses, officers and public sector partners. Where necessary this will be supplemented by the use of targeted external support

Q. How will community groups know what might be available to them?

