

SERVICES SELECT – MEETING HELD ON 4TH APRIL.

The Work Plan was reviewed. It was agreed that although the meeting scheduled for September had no items for business, the situation would be reviewed at the next meeting in June to allow for reports from sub committees to be considered.

An update on the SDHR Allocation Policy and the Sevenoaks District Tenancy Strategy was presented by the Social Housing Manager. Following a number of questions, the planned reduction in the register numbers and an increased local emphasis was agreed as the best way forward.

The Housing Policy Manager gave an update on the Under Occupation of the Social Housing Plan. Good co-operation between the stakeholders was progressing the plan well with a number of initiatives being used. The Committee welcomed the positive report and the progress made.

Head of Housing and Communications, assisted by the Economic Development Officer, presented the scope and terms of reference document for the in depth scrutiny of Rural Broadband in the District. It was agreed that this work would be carried out by the IT Working Group and that as Cllr.Pett was having to step down as Chairman, his place would be taken by Cllr. Scholey. The spare place on the working group to be assigned to Cllr. Piper.

An update on the Localising Support for Council Tax was given by the Chief Officer – Finance. All those affected by the changes had been contacted. Where no payment is received further reminders would be sent. It was noted that both pay points (Sevenoaks and Swanley) were receiving an increased number of payments resulting from the new system

The Customer Services Manager presented a paper requesting the support of the Committee to start negotiations for new contract with Swanley Town Council relating to the Swanley Local office. It was proposed that there would be no change in the financial support and that clauses to allow renegotiation of the contract if Swanley Town Council sought to amend the current operating procedures.

It was unofficially agreed that Cllr Horwood could create a small team to look into the costs of printing. Details of the Terms of Reference and objectives to be formally agreed at the next meeting.

R.J.Davison

Chairman

07/04/2013.