

Scrutiny Committee – April

BOATS Business Opportunities and Threats

Cllr Ramsay – Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources

1. Uncertainty future Government funding/policy

Limited opportunity for further staff cuts currently 363 FTE, limit maybe 350 FTE depending on DWP policy.

Threat to our fraud teams from DWP takeover, but still have to maintain fraud on Council Tax Benefit.

2. Disposal of unwanted property

Initial list now completed £3.5m capital sum

Second list being prepared (FRAC)

Many of the sites shortlisted require pre sale work in respect of planning consents or valuations. We may be working with adjoining land owners, so issues may arise with prospective partners which mean not a quick process, but with time all should be achievable.

To achieve best value many sites will be subject to submission of planning applications.

3. Investment in new assets and services to provide income stream

Presentation by Cllr Lorraine Stack gave excellent ideas for enhanced service income

Investment in sites we own – Sevenoaks Town Centre Car Park – increase in parking revenues.

Capital Investment in Leisure Assets which increase income and reduce on-going Asset Maintenance costs.

Purchase of new Property Assets to achieve greater rental income. Members agreement needed to the principle and to formulate an efficient governance process that will allow quick decision making.