

Extract from notes for Briefing that took place on Thursday 26 June 2014

Present:

Cllr Peter Fleming	Chairman: Portfolio Holder: Strategy & Performance
Cllr Brian Ramsay	Portfolio Holder: Finance & Resources
Cllr Michelle Lowe	Portfolio Holder: Housing and Community Safety
Cllr Robert Piper	Portfolio Holder: Local Planning & Environment
Cllr Scholey	Deputy Portfolio Holder
Cllr Carol Clark	Deputy Portfolio Holder
Cllr Mrs Bosley	Deputy Portfolio Holder
Cllr Searles	Deputy Portfolio Holder

Pav Ramewal	Chief Executive
Richard Morris	Chief Planning Officer (Deputy)
Adrian Rowbotham	Chief Finance Officer (Deputy Deputy)
Ian Finch	Head of Direct Services – Item 1b
Hannah Gooden	Planning Policy Team Leader – Item 1e
Steve Craddock	Principal Planning Officer – Item 1f
Christine Nuttall	Chief Officer Legal and Governance – 1h

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Hunter, Cllr Stack, Cllr Firth, Cllr Dickins, Cllr Hogarth

No apologies received from Cllr Horwood or Ayres

Notes: Kam Dallon

1h Property Searches Briefing – verbal update - Christine Nuttall

The Council along with most other local authorities have outstanding claims in relation to the reimbursement of Local Land Charge Personal Search fees. This came about as a result of the Government deciding that personal search fee information should have been obtainable under the Environment Information Regulations 2004.

Bevan Brittan has been representing all the authorities concerned with authorities contributing to a pooled fund. Initially the claim against our authority was [REDACTED] and the final settlement for our authority announced on the 13th June is [REDACTED] t. The Government has already awarded each authority a sum of [REDACTED] to partly cover the loss of the search fee income and any claims that may be made. Our authority had anticipated that we would be required to settle the claim and so had set aside the Government receipt and so the impact to this Council will be limited to [REDACTED] plus interest and we can meet the shortfall within existing budgets.

Cllr F asked whether this was a group offer or would we be able to go individually with our cheque in settlement and Members asked who we would be required to pay. CN stated that we would be paying the Land Charge companies who had brought the claim against our authority and that those authorities who did not accept their settlement figure would be left to continue the action on their own without any continuing support from Bevan Brittan. Not all authorities had to accept as a group.

Cllr F thanked CN for providing the update

