Strategic Investment Board-Supplementary Agenda



Date and Time

Monday, 24 July

2023

10.30 am

Place

Reigate,

Surrey, RH2 8EF

Council Chamber,

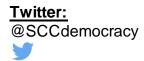
Woodhatch Place,

11 Cockshot Hill,

Contact

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Web:



4 QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

There are two Member questions. A response is attached.

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Joanna Killian Chief Executive Published: Friday, 21 July 2023

MOBILE TECHNOLOGY AND FILMING – ACCEPTABLE USE

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Thank you for your co-operation.

QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

Cabinet and most committees will consider questions by elected Surrey County Council Members and questions and petitions from members of the public who are electors in the Surrey County Council area.

Please note the following regarding questions from the public:

- 1. Members of the public can submit one written question to a meeting by the deadline stated in the agenda. Questions should relate to general policy and not to detail. Questions are asked and answered in public and cannot relate to "confidential" or "exempt" matters (for example, personal or financial details of an individual); for further advice please contact the committee manager listed on the front page of an agenda.
- 2. The number of public questions which can be asked at a meeting may not exceed six. Questions which are received after the first six will be held over to the following meeting or dealt with in writing at the Chairman's discretion.
- 3. Questions will be taken in the order in which they are received.
- 4. Questions will be asked and answered without discussion. The Chairman or Cabinet members may decline to answer a question, provide a written reply or nominate another Member to answer the question.
- 5. Following the initial reply, one supplementary question may be asked by the questioner. The Chairman or Cabinet members may decline to answer a supplementary question.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD 24 JULY 2023

Members Questions:

Question (1) Catherine Baart

The current definition of Best Value used by SCC for its property and land sales can impact the ability of the county council to support borough and district councils in building more social housing when SCC has surplus land to sell.

The DLUHC is running a consultation currently on statutory guidance for local councils on Best Value Duty.

Please confirm that SCC has responded to the consultation and provide details of its response. Does SCC agree that the current definition of Best Value limits its ability to work with boroughs and districts to help them to build social housing, which would be of benefit to all residents in Surrey, on surplus county council land?

Reply:

The Council are drafting a response to the current DLUHC consultation, which closes on 15 August, details on the response can be shared once finalised. Consideration will be given to the impact of the Best Value definition on the council's ability to work collaboratively with Boroughs and Districts. An example of our intent to support this principle is the land sale to Tandridge DC for Social housing, the offer was below market value, and higher offers were received.

Tim Oliver Leader of the Council 24 July 2023

Question (2) Jonathan Essex

Please provide a breakdown as to how many of the Halsey Garton Residential Ltd's 80 properties are currently rented out at social or affordable rents, and how many are at market rents and how many are vacant.

Reply:

Surrey County Council does not currently have an approved Cabinet Policy that includes a definition of either social or affordable rents. However, approximately 20% of the portfolio is let at rents that are below 80% of market value which is due to historical reasons when the properties transferred to HGR. The remaining properties are rented at market rent or close to market rent. Two properties have recently become vacant and are being prepared for market, although one requires major

refurbishment works. Furthermore, we are reviewing the current portfolio and exploring opportunities to support essential workers as a priority.

Natalie Bramhall Cabinet Member for Property and Waste 24 July 2023