

## **ANNUAL COUNCIL - 21 MAY 2020**

### **AGENDA ITEM 10 – QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

Cllr Charlotte Cane:

#### **Background:**

In the ECDC Covid-19 Update on 15 May we were informed that:

“Risk assessments have been produced for both sites by our independent H & S advisers”. (Referring to Palace Green Homes’ sites at Haddenham and Ely).

We were further informed that on 7 May the Corporate Management Team and the Service Leads had logged their decision that:

“Palace Green Homes sites at Ely and Haddenham will re-open on 11/05/20.”

#### **Questions:**

1 - What are the legal implications of ECDC’s H&S advisers producing Risks Assessments for work to be carried out by ECTC Limited T/A Palace Green Homes?

2 – What are the legal implications of ECDC’s Corporate Management Team and the Service Leads taking decisions about when ECTC Limited T/A Palace Green Homes will re-open its sites?

3 – In particular, are our legal advisers confident that we have not put ourselves at risk of being seen to have impaired ‘the veil of incorporation’ by actively engaging in the provision of advice and the decision making for ECTC Limited T/A Palace Green Homes?

Cllr Mark Inskip:

#### **Question to the Leader of the Council:**

Prior to the COVID-19 office working restrictions, how many members of staff had been given permission under the Home Working Policy to work from home?

And in the light of the successful experience of working from home during the COVID-19 pandemic, will the Council review its current Home Working Policy to encourage more staff to take advantage of the option to work from home some or all of the time?

Cllr Alison Whelan:

Eleven months ago at the special full council meeting held on 19 June 2019, the Council resolved that "the Chief Executive be instructed to bring forward proposals to increase the level of affordable housing above statutory Planning requirements for Phase 2 of the MOD site, Ely."

Could the Leader of the Council update the Members on the progress towards developing these proposals and confirm when they will be presented to members for review?

Cllr Christine Whelan:

**Mayor and the Citizens' Advice office**

What communication has taken place between ECDC officers and/or members and the Mayor, Combined Authority officers and/or members in the last twelve months regarding the use or occupation of the premises used by Citizens Advice Rural Cambridgeshire in Market Street, Ely?

What is the current state of discussions between the district council and the Combined Authority regarding these premises?