

Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 25 April 2019

Subject: Commercial and Regulatory Services

Portfolio Holder: Councillor A Grigg

Recommending:

That the report of the Commercial and Regulatory Services Portfolio Holder be noted.

Commercial and Regulatory Services

The Private Sector Housing team are currently dealing with a number of heavily hoarded, filthy and verminous premises assisting the vulnerable occupants with clearances to ensure their properties are safe and fit for purpose. These are complex cases involving multi agency working, with Adult Social care, Mental Health teams and Essex County Fire and Rescue to find the best course of action to provide an improvement in living conditions.

Environmental Health Officers have the expertise to support these residents during what can be a very stressful time; but the end result is an enhancement of the health, safety and welfare of the residents and neighbours.

Estates and Valuations

Following close to two years since the development was completed the Epping Forest Shopping Park is now fully let and trading. The Park is still proving extremely popular with customers and it is envisaged that the remaining financial retentions held will shortly be released to the various contractors

All feasibility work on the relocation of the Housing Repairs Service to Oakwood Hill Depot has now been largely completed.

Pyrles Lane Nursery is currently under offer to be sold to Durkan Developments who are in the process of conducting their legal and site due diligence. Solicitors have been appointed to progress the sale.

St John's Road Redevelopment - the final version of the Leisure Centre feasibility study/options appraisal for the site is complete – there are some outstanding discussions to be had on financing options however, the key recommendation of the study is that the St Johns Road site is the most viable leisure centre option.

The majority of the site surveys have been completed in order to support any future development work. A renewed development brief is being commissioned based on previous work undertaken and taking into account the submission version of the Local Plan. This development brief will then support further planning applications.

At a recent Cabinet meeting permission was given to go ahead with the Masterplanning exercise for North Weald Airfield. Suitable consultant support will now be sought progress this going forward.

Three of the ground floor units in the Landmark building on The Broadway have now been let and negotiations are being concluded to open a public house in the summer.