
Subject: TRANSPARENCY AGENDA

Meeting and Date: Governance Committee – 26 March 2015

Report of: Director of Environment and Corporate Assets

Portfolio Holder: Access and Property Management

Purpose of the report: Governance Committee requested that a report on Transparency be brought before the Committee

Recommendation: That the Governance Committee note this report.

1. Summary

At their last meeting on 4 December 2014, Governance Committee requested that a report be brought before the Committee to give an overview of the properties which the Council owns.

2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 As part of the government's Transparency Agenda, local Councils were required to publish a list of the property they owned by April 2015.
- 2.2 Dover District Council published this data in April 2014 and can be inspected by the public on the Council's website at <http://www.dover.gov.uk/Corporate-Information/Council-Land-Buildings.aspx> and I have attached an abbreviated copy of the spreadsheet to this report with some columns omitted to allow the document to be viewed more easily.
- 2.3 The properties are listed on this spreadsheet by category, starting with operational property and concluding with non-operational property.
- 2.4 The list excludes Council owned dwellings and garages and smaller pieces of land. These pieces of land are marked on the Council's electronic terrier maps. Property Services and Housing sections have recently carried out an audit of all such pieces of land to identify plots with development potential, such as the site at Adelaide Road Elvington on which the Council has recently built 3 new houses for Council tenants and the site at the corner of Castle Street Dover which is presently being redeveloped with 8 council flats.
- 2.5 Further sites are being brought forward for future development under the recently adopted Land Allocations Local Plan.
- 2.6 The spreadsheet includes land purchased for regeneration purposes in both St James Dover and Dorman Avenue Aylesham. It should be noted that Burlington House and the County Hotel both appear under Ground Leases.
- 2.7 Property Services continues to critically examine all of its landholdings looking for disposal opportunities or for more effective use of buildings, such as the lease of part of the Whitfield offices to the NHS local clinical commissioning group.

3. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Corporate Property List

4. **Background Papers**

None

Contact Officer: Rob Reid-Easton Property Services x2257.