

Efficiency, Improvement & Transformation

Legal Services Review

Scope

Scrutiny Chair: Cllr Ken Lupton	Contact details: ken.lupton@stockton.gov.uk
Cabinet member: Cllr David Harrington	Contact details: david.harrington@stockton.gov.uk
Scrutiny Officer: Anthony Duffy	Contact details: 01642 528159
Lead Officer: Julie Grant	Contact details: 01642 527063
Finance Officer: Suzie Lloyd	Contact details: 01642 526450
Select Committee: Executive Scrutiny Committee	Type of Review: Reporting In
1. What services are included? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internal Legal Services• External Legal Services• Local Land Charges <p>(Not included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitoring Officer or Proper Officer Functions)	
2. The Thematic Select Committee's / EIT Project Team overall aim / objectives in doing this work is: <p>To identify options for future strategy / policy / service provision that will deliver efficiency savings and sustain / improve high quality outcomes for SBC residents.</p>	
3. Expected duration of enquiry? What are the key milestones? <p>June to December 2011.</p> <p>Key Milestones:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree scoping of review and project plan (2nd August 2011)• Finalise baseline information (25th October 2011)• Identify opportunities for EIT (to include, determine debt review with Xentrall, carry out a tender exercise for counsels fees, identify linkages with Uniform, GIS, Land Ownership and Local Land Charges, explore alternative delivery models) (25th October 2011)• Review options/agree way forward (20th December 2011)	

- Report to Cabinet (12th January 2012)

4. In addition to analysis and benchmarking costs, performance, assets etc, what other processes are likely to be required to inform the review? (e.g. site visits; observations; face-to-face questioning, telephones survey, written questionnaire, co-option of expert witnesses etc).

- Tender for Counsels fees
- Consultation with clients

5. How will key partners and/or the public be involved and at what stages?

- Discussions with client SGMT's
- Evaluation of tenders
- Consultation with Trade Unions

6. Please give an initial indication how transformation will enable efficiencies and improvements to be delivered by this EIT review?

- Increased opportunities for development of employees
- Improved use of Idox technology and maintenance of spatial data sets
- Consolidation of property based information, facilities and management