Planning Committee

17th November 2016

Member Questions (2)

Question from Councillor Willingham to planning officers Could I please be advised what s106 monies are available or potentially available from developments in St Peter's ward, including details of the development to which they relate, what they can be spent upon, the status of the monies, and any deadlines for the money to be spent? Response from Director of Planning There are two contributions relating to St Peter's ward: 1. Saxon Quarter (Christ College) - play space contribution of £31 039.50 identified through S106 to be delivered at St. Peters Chelt Walk. This S106 has just been received, so there is a period of 5 years to spend. Shortly officers will be engaging with relevant ward members, Big Local and the local community to determine the delivery of the scheme. 2. 2 Devon Avenue - Public Art of £27,000 of which 10% was received and committed on project management and appointment of an artist. The balance of £24 300 has only recently been received and the intention is to deliver a project which was agreed by the Public Art Panel for public art provision in King George V playing fields. 2. Question from Councillor Willingham to planning officers Given the time-bounded nature of s106, would the Chair of Planning Committee agree to work with Planning Officers ensure that s106 reports are regularly provided to Planning Committee and regularly published, both to improve the transparency and oversight of these important tranches of public money, and also to try to minimise the risk of unspent funds being lost from the public purse by having to be returned to developers? For clarity, in the above questions "s106" refers to "Planning obligations" pursuant to section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. **Response from Director of Planning** S106 monies are regularly monitored; this manages the risk of funds being unspent. During 2016 an officer working group was set up to ensure communication between relevant teams and support monitoring of the schedule of S106. An output of this group is to deliver regular reporting to Cabinet via the quarterly budget monitoring report. This approach has been agreed with Chair of Planning

Committee. Reporting will begin in the first quarter of 2017.