

EMRLGA EVALUATION

Report of the Director of Derby Homes

SUMMARY OF REPORT

1. To provide an evaluation of the service offered by the East Midlands Regional Local Government Association.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That our membership is discontinued and that other sources of support are considered.

MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Derby Homes became a member of the EMRLGA in April 2002. Membership at Associate Level 3 cost £1,800. The key elements of interest to us were:
 - Advisory helpline
 - National Advisory Bulletin
 - Information and library service
 - Condition of Service updates
 - Monthly bulletin by email.
- 3.2 In June 2002, John Bloxsom and Christine Briddon met with Janet Wood, Director EMRLGA. We established who should be placed on the email and mail circulation lists and how we should seek advice.
- 3.3 Since then, we have experienced problems with the service offered. We had not been receiving any email updates, advisory bulletins and conditions of service changes. The given contact for advice left and a replacement contact was not provided.
- 3.4 The EMRLGA was contacted in October, November, December 2002 and January 2003, expressing concern about the service. The problems were acknowledged and put down to sickness and staffing problems.
- 3.5 In March 2003, we received a free training course by way of compensation.

- 3.6 Whilst we have not received appropriate advice from the EMRLGA, we have been able to appropriately manage personnel issues. The Service Level Agreement with Corporate Personnel can include a copy of the Advisory Bulletins from the EMRLGA. We have also established a Service Level Agreement with Derby City Council Legal Services.

CONSULTATION IMPLICATIONS

4. The EMRLGA was told in March that we are considering withdrawing from its service. They were invited to make contact with us to discuss, but they have not responded.

FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS PLAN IMPLICATIONS

5. This year's fee would be £2,161.

LEGAL AND CONFIDENTIALITY IMPLICATIONS

6. None.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7. None.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

8. None.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9. None.

Contact Officer

Christine Briddon, Personnel Officer, tel: 10332 711035, email: christine.bridon@derby.gov.uk