

Devon Building Control Partnership

South Hams District Council
Teignbridge District Council
West Devon Borough Council

Chairman:

DATE: 19 July 2019

REPORT OF: Andrew Carpenter – Head of Partnership

SUBJECT: AGM report Public

Part 1

Recommendation:

The Devon Building Control Partnership Committee is asked to note the report and the attached Appendices

1. PURPOSE

To provide an update on the financial performance of the Devon Building Control Partnership.

2. BACKGROUND

The Partnership operates under the Devon Building Control Partnership Agreement 2017.

The Agreement states that the Committee shall meet a minimum of three times a year and that one of those meetings shall be the Annual General Meeting, at which the Chair and Vice Chair will be determined for the forthcoming year.

3. MAIN IMPLICATIONS

The Partnership has completed fifteen years in operation and has been hosted by Teignbridge District Council since April 2011 and who has employed all staff in the Partnership since April 2017.

The Partnership continues to successfully deliver the building control service across the three Authorities, maintaining high standards, meeting all statutory PIs and continues to operate within agreed annual budgets.

2018/19 was the second year under the current partnership agreement, with Teignbridge council as the full host authority.

Staff

DEVON BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP

Two members of staff have recently left to pursue their careers and experience with different building control organisations. One of these is a Local Authority and the other an Approved Inspector. Replacement of these staff is in progress.

The Committee previously agreed to continue funding a part time temporary post in the Technical Support team until January 2020. In the absence of a Technician the need for this post is even greater.

Seminars and events

For the past two years the partnership has been in collaboration with Plymouth building control to provide technical presentations and seminars to the construction industry on a regular basis. A programme of regular events, duplicated in Forde House and in Plymouth was set up and is proving successful. A number of partnership customers and surveyors attend the ones in Plymouth so both venues enable greater coverage and by working with Plymouth the work involved in arranging them is shared.

LABC Publications

Through LABC the Partnership have developed e-publications that are downloadable from the website. Produced at no cost to the Partnership due to the publisher selling advertising space, the publications provide valuable information to customers. They are used nationally but are badged by each local authority that uses them. Current publications include the 'Guide to extending your home', 'Custom Build', 'Guide to Renovating Your Property' and 'Guide to Converting Your Property'.

Awards

Projects inspected by Local Authorities across Cornwall, Devon, Somerset and Dorset were recognised for excellence in the South West Local Authority Building Control Excellence Awards on Friday 24 May at the Crowne Plaza in Plymouth. Four staff members attended the evening event. There were two successful projects in the Partnership's area :

- **Wakeham New Barn, Aveton Gifford** – Winner of Best Change of Use of an Existing Building or Conversion Award – Derry Owen Architects.
- **Lower Linney, Ashburton** – Highly Commended – Goulden & Sons Ltd and Van Ellen Sheryn

Legal

The 2017 Partnership Agreement requires that the Partnership Committee will meet for a minimum of 3 times a year:

DEVON BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP

At the Annual General Meeting the Partnership Committee shall;

- agree the Partnership's draft final accounts, and agree the balance to be held in the Trading Account.
- reassess the values and objectives of the Partnership and monitor service delivery and financial performance.
- from among their members elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Risk Analysis

Risks to the Partnership's business are documented and reviewed annually.

4. GROUPS CONSULTED

South Hams District Council, Teignbridge District Council and West Devon Borough Council.

5. TIME-SCALE

The information covers the period from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

6. JUSTIFICATION

The meeting is required in accordance with the Partnership Agreement.
Building Control Partnership

Andrew Carpenter
Head of Devon Building Control
Partnership

Wards affected	All
Contact for any more information	Andrew Carpenter 01626 215721