## PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

## 1 QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

1.1 The Proper Officer reports that, pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 10, the following questions of the Portfolio Holder for Planning has been received from Mr Richard Lambourne of Flat 7, Whitehouse Court, 158 Eastwood Road, Rayleigh:-

In November 2016 the Planning department and yourself issued several press releases about returning empty properties back into the housing stock. Owners were to be contacted; they were offered up to £1,000 and further to that each property was to be visited.

You personally were quoted in the local press stating that this would be a significant step in increasing the affordable housing available to people on RDC's housing list.

- (1) Can you confirm how many properties were visited and how many responses did you get; how many properties were returned to the housing stock, and at what cost?
- (2) Finally, in respect of those properties that have been empty for many years – how many have been, or are planned to be, compulsorily purchased by Planning Enforcement?

John Brederk

John Bostock

Assistant Director, Democratic Services

## **Background Papers:-**

None.

For further information please contact Sonia Worthington, Democratic Services Officer on:-

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If you would like this report in large print, Braille or another language please contact 01702 318111.