

## Shadow Overview & Scrutiny Committee

### Draft Key Lines of Enquiry (KLoE's)

#### *Transfer of Assets*

“As the Shadow Executive Committee (SEC) have discussed, agreed and established these 9 key Principles....”:

- Who was consulted in the formulation and development of these principles and when?
- How will the SEC ensure a fair, objective and consistent application of the principles to decision making?
- How is the de minimis level of £100,000 to be applied i.e. to each individual asset, or a collection of assets if covered by a single resolution?
- Why is it considered necessary to apply '*unique circumstances*' to Weymouth & Portland Town Councils if the agreed 'principles' are considered to provide a fair and objective approach to transfer? ....and, therefore What principles does the SEC propose to apply to asset transfers to Weymouth & Portland?
- What is the relationship between principle (vii) and principle (viii)? Should principle (vii) be expressed to be without prejudice to principle (viii)?
- Why should Town & Parish Councils not expect to retain income to fund and maintain transferred assets going forwards?
- The Structural Change Order includes an obligation on predecessor councils to cooperate with the Shadow Authority. Under what circumstances would the SEC consider that the Secretary of State might be persuaded to issue a direction restricting the ability of predecessor councils to transfer assets?
- In respect of the decision of the SEC on 17 September 2018 concerning the proposed transfer of assets by West Dorset DC (*Min 52 refers*), what were the reasons why the SEC decided not to support the proposal?
- The Case for Change submitted as part of the proposals for the re-organisation of local government in Dorset refers to reorganisation offering the chance to enhance the relationships between councils, their members and the community (page 76) and to Dorset already being served by a network of town and parish councils, which provided a strong platform to follow the examples of the 2009 unitary authorities and introduce local area governance structures (page 78):
  - How does the SEC reconcile these statements with the principles on the transfer of assets?